



Daily Report

East Asia

FBIS-EAS-93-225
Wednesday
24 November 1993

Daily Report

East Asia

FBIS-EAS-93-225

CONTENTS

24 November 1993

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Malaysian Minister on Attitude Toward APEC [Melbourne International]	1
Philippines' Ramos Comments on APEC Meetings [THE MANILA CHRONICLE 22 Nov]	1
Singapore Willing To Join NAFTA if Invited [BUSINESS TIMES 23 Nov]	2

NORTHEAST ASIA

Japan

U.S. Firm Pulls Out Due to Distribution System [KYODO]	3
Kumagai on EC-U.S. Farm Dispute Talks [KYODO]	3
More Chinese Held for Alleged Illegal Entry [KYODO]	3
Documents Exchanged With Israel on Tax Treaty [KYODO]	3
Mongolian Prime Minister Arrives for Visit [KYODO]	4
UN Envoy on Permanent Security Council Seat [KYODO]	4
Government Joins Group Helping Refugees [KYODO]	4
Government on 'Serious Study' of Rice Market [KYODO]	4
SDP Lawmakers Threaten To Leave Coalition [KYODO]	5
LDP Seeks More Concessions on Political Reform [KYODO]	5
Parties Fail To Agree on Debate in Upper House [KYODO]	6
Tobishima Chief Allegedly Bribed Governor [KYODO]	6
'Sluggish' Economy Predicted Until Year-End [KYODO]	6
BOJ's Governor Mieno 'Doubts' New Recession [KYODO]	7
Industrial Activity 'Remains Stagnant' [KYODO]	7
Business, Labor Agree on Income Tax Cut Need [KYODO]	8

Mongolia

Prime Minister Leaves on Visit to Japan [Moscow ITAR-TASS]	8
Defense Minister Says Armed Forces 'Disarmed' [Beijing XINHUA]	8
Ruling Party Bans Factional Activities [Beijing XINHUA]	8

North Korea

Red Cross Delegation To Go to Panmunjom 14 Dec [KCNA]	8
South Korean Defector to North Interviewed [KCNA]	9
SKNDF White Paper Details 'Injustices' [KCNA]	9
Radio Reports Statement on 'Biochemical Weapons' [Pyongyang Radio]	10
South Said Behind Stall in DPRK-U.S. Talks [KCNA]	11
'World Public' Denounces Clinton 7 Nov Remarks [KCNA]	11
Radio Denounces U.S.-ROK 'War Exercise' [Pyongyang Radio]	11
Japanese Defense Chief's Remarks Criticized [KCNA]	12
Japan Urged To Discard 'Reinvasion Scheme' [KCNA]	13
Commentary Demands Japan Apology for 'Past Crime' [Pyongyang Radio]	13
Kim Il-song Receives Message From Yasir 'Arafat [Pyongyang Radio]	14
Kim Il-song Meets German Communist Delegation [KCNA]	15
PRC Youth Delegation Arrives in Pyongyang [KCNA]	15
Radio Notes Anniversary of Treaty With PRC [Pyongyang Radio]	15
Delegation Returns From Trip to Indonesia [Pyongyang Radio]	15
WPK Delegation Ends Visit to Denmark, Ireland [Pyongyang Radio]	16
Goods Exhibition Opens in New Delhi 14 Nov [Pyongyang Radio]	16

Supreme People's Assembly To Convene 9 Dec [Pyongyang TV]	16
Deputies To Register for Session [Pyongyang TV]	16
Kim Chong-il Greets Yanggang Province Enterprises [KCNA]	16
Farm Overfulfills Grain Production Goal [KCNA]	16
'Talk' Notes Significance of Local Elections [Pyongyang Radio]	17
Talk Stresses Unity of Leader, Party, Masses [Pyongyang Radio]	18
Commentators Urge Strengthening Dictatorship [Pyongyang Radio]	20

South Korea

Further on Kim Yong-sam's Visit to Washington	21
Speech at American University [THE KOREA TIMES 24 Nov]	21
Clinton, Kim Hold 'Harmonious' Talks [YONHAP]	22
Further on Summit Talks [THE KOREA HERALD 24 Nov]	23
DPRK Nuclear Issue Discussed [THE KOREA TIMES 24 Nov]	24
Economic Cooperation Considered [YONHAP]	25
Clinton Urges Rice Market Opening [YONHAP]	25
Kim's Statement at News Conference [Seoul TV]	25
23 Nov Joint News Conference [Seoul TV]	26
Kim Briefs Korean Reporters [YONHAP]	27
Speaks at White House State Dinner [YONHAP]	28
Foreign Minister on 'Package Deal' [YONHAP]	28
Minister Terms Visit 'Success' [YONHAP]	28
YONHAP Analyzes Summit Results	29
YONHAP Reviews U.S. Visit	29
Tour 'Anecdotes' Noted [YONHAP]	30
Army Chief Meets U.S. Counterpart 23 Nov [THE KOREA TIMES 24 Nov]	31
ROK, U.S. 'Expect' DPRK To 'Act by Mid-Dec' [YONHAP]	31
North To Send Red Cross Officials to Panmunjom [YONHAP]	31
Editorial Urges Prudence in Talks With North [CHOSON ILBO 21 Nov]	31
Russia To Continue DPRK Contacts on NPT [HANGUK ILBO 23 Nov]	32
Probe of Yi Tong-pok's Role in N-S Talks Ordered [YONHAP]	32
Yi Tong-pok Resigns From NSP [YONHAP]	33
Defector From North Details Food Ration System [HANGUK ILBO 22 Nov]	33
Ministry Proposes 'Offer List' for GATT Talks [THE KOREA TIMES 23 Nov]	34
Six Illegal Immigrant Iranians Arrested [YONHAP]	35
Agreement With PRC on Fiber-Optic Cable [YONHAP]	36
Korea Telecom To Sell Shares in Four Firms [THE KOREA HERALD 24 Nov]	36
Lawmaker Fined 5 Million Won for Accepting Bribe [YONHAP]	36
* Kim Yong-sam Seeks Election Law Reform [SISA JOURNAL 23 Sep]	36
* Economic Expert Suggests Industrial Alliances [MAEIL KYONGJE SINMUN 13 Sep]	39
* Performance of Top Companies Assessed [CHUGAN CHOSON 9 Sep]	40
* Diplomat's Financial Assets Revealed [CHUGAN CHOSON 23 Sep]	42
* Assessment of Stability of Northeast Asia [CHUGAN CHOSON 9 Sep]	44
* Press Corps Grades Kim Yong-sam, Government [WOLGAN CHOSON Sep]	46

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Burma

Reaction to Peace Negotiations Offer Reported	60
NCGUB Prime Minister on Offer [Radio DVOB]	60
Rebel Student Leader Views Offer [Radio DVOB]	60
DAB General Secretary on Initiative [Radio DVOB]	61
Khin Nyunt on Corruption of Revenue Personnel [Rangoon Radio]	62
Agriculture Minister Returns From FAO, ROK [Rangoon Radio]	62
22 Insurgents Reportedly Surrender 1-16 Oct [Rangoon Radio]	62

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Mahathir Welcomes Clinton's Remarks on EAEC [Kuala Lumpur Radio]	63
Commentary Hails U.S. Trade Deal With Asia [Kuala Lumpur International]	63
Australian Criticism of APEC Absence Viewed [Kuala Lumpur Radio]	63
Piracy Cases in Straits of Melaka Decrease [Kuala Lumpur International]	64
Straits Environment Agreement With Indonesia [Kuala Lumpur International]	64

Singapore

Goh Views 'Impending' Ministerial Changes [BUSINESS TIMES 23 Nov]	64
---	----

Cambodia

DPRK Official on 2-Headed Government 'Lethargy' [Radio VGNUFC]	65
No Ties With South Korea Stance Questioned [REAKSMEI KAMPUCHEA 13 Nov]	65
Cuba Intends To Help Build Sugar Refinery [AKP]	65
Sihanouk Gives Instructions to Chea Sim [Phnom Penh Radio]	66
Minister: Door Still Open for Khmer Rouge Talk [AKP]	66

Indonesia

Minister: Malaysia Dispute 'Not a Military One' [Jakarta Radio]	66
Dutch Military Chief Calls on Counterpart [ANTARA]	67
Warships Purchased From Germany Arrive [Jakarta Radio]	67
Rescheduling Foreign Debt Payment Said 'Drastic' [THE JAKARTA POST 10 Nov]	67

Laos

Article Views Relations With Cambodia [PASASON 16 Nov]	68
Cooperation Discussed With Thai Delegation [Bangkok International]	68
'Instruction' Issued on National Day Occasion [Vientiane Radio]	69
Conference of Party Units Opens 22 Nov [Vientiane Radio]	69

Philippines

Kidnappers of U.S. Missionary Issue Demands [Quezon City Radio-TV]	70
BOI Views Expectations for Results of MIGA [BUSINESS WORLD 19 Nov]	71
Breakaway Group Vows To Purge CPLA Chief [PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 18 Nov]	71
CPLA Chief Denounces Breakaway Group [PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 22 Nov]	72
Divided Peasant Movement Holds Two Meetings [PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 22 Nov]	72
ARMM To Abide by Government-MNLF Agreement [MANILA BULLETIN 23 Nov]	73
Roundup of Rebel Activities for 13-19 Nov [MALAYA, etc.]	73

Thailand

Prime Minister Comments on APEC Meeting [Bangkok Radio]	74
Deputy Prime Minister Quoted [Bangkok International]	75
Dailies Comment on Chuan-Clinton Meeting [THAI RAT 23 Nov, etc.]	75
Editorial Notes U.S. Benefits From APEC Meeting [THAI RAT 24 Nov]	76
U.S. Textile, Garment Deal Based on GATT [BANGKOK POST 24 Nov]	77
Libyan Envoy Meets Foreign Ministry Official [Bangkok TV]	78
Says No Visa Suspension for Thais [Bangkok TV]	78
Saudi Envoy on Unresolved Cases, Relations [NAEO NA 24 Nov]	78
Scheme To Kill Burma SLORC Leaders Outlined [THE NATION 24 Nov]	79
General on Border Discussions With Burma [Bangkok Radio]	80
Aid for Burmese Public Health Development Noted [Bangkok International]	80
UN Official Visits Burma Border Refugee Camps [BANGKOK POST 20 Nov]	80
Economic Cooperation Agreement With Finland [BANGKOK POST 24 Nov]	81

Taiwan Urged To Reduce Trade Obstacles [Bangkok International]	81
Government To Abolish Farm Import Surcharges [THE NATION 24 Nov]	81

Vietnam

Vietnamese, Lao, U.S. MIA Experts Meet 22 Nov [VNA]	82
Commentary Affirms Support for MIA Search [Hanoi International]	82
Singapore's Lee Kwan Yew Views Economic Reform [Hanoi Radio]	82
Lao Finance Delegation Pays Official Visit [VNA]	83
Khmer Rouge's Allegation of Control Denounced [Hanoi International]	83
Do Muoi Receives Cuban Women's Delegation [VNA]	84
Ties With Brazil, Argentina, Chile Reviewed [Hanoi International]	84
Party Leaders Attend Publishing House Meeting [Hanoi Radio]	84

AUSTRALASIA

Australia

Opposition Criticizes Landmark APEC Report [Melbourne International]	86
--	----

New Zealand

Disclosure of Intelligence Sent To U.S. Urged [AFP]	86
---	----

Vanuatu

Talks With New Zealand on Defense Cooperation [AFP]	86
---	----

Malaysian Minister on Attitude Toward APEC

*BK2311102893 Melbourne Radio Australia in English
0630 GMT 23 Nov 93*

[From the "International Report" program]

[Text] The plan to hold another Asia-Pacific summit in Jakarta next year presents a diplomatic issue for Malaysia. Regional observers say it's highly unlikely that Malaysia's prime minister, Dr. Mahathir, would refuse an invitation from President Suharto to attend the APEC [Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation] leaders meeting in 12 months' time. But as Graeme Dobell reports from Seattle, that will mean a change of stance for Dr. Mahathir, who refused to attend this first APEC leaders summit.

[Begin recording] [Dobell] Malaysia has been the least enthusiastic of the ASEAN states about APEC, both before and after it was formed in 1989. That's why Malaysia set out in 1990 to try to create its own East Asian Economic Caucus. While all six ASEAN members are worried about ASEAN being overshadowed by the larger APEC group, it's been Malaysia which has expressed those fears in the lowest terms. Malaysia's trade minister, Datuk Rafidah Aziz:

[Rafidah] It is that no entity should overshadow ASEAN, period. The issue is [words indistinct] APEC, that's what's ASEAN's concern. Well, we went into APEC knowing very well that APEC would always remain a loose consultative forum, project and program oriented, and that in whatever we evolve it should not change structurally—it should not change radically in terms of its profile and makeup—and as long as the APEC is defined in that manner, ASEAN will remain a proactive entity in that. In this Seattle meeting, it's clear that ASEAN has, as a [word indistinct], put forward this idea—this thinking—and I am sure that everybody understands.

[Dobell] That Malaysian language about APEC being a loose consultative forum has been won over by the leader summit, where Malaysia was the only absentee. The Asia-Pacific leaders said their meeting reflected the emergence of a new voice in world affairs and in Australia's terms, APEC is moving to become a policy-making body. Malaysia would have to give ground on a second leader summit because it's being hosted by its powerful neighbor, Indonesia, and ASEAN's father figure, President Suharto. But Malaysia is not giving ground in other APEC areas, especially Australia's talk of an Asia Pacific Economic Community, and the aim of achieving free trade among the APEC states. Datuk Rafidah described Australia and its foreign minister, Gareth Evans, as trying to bulldoze ASEAN over APEC's future growth.

[Rafidah] Well, that's typical. Australia, Gareth, [words indistinct] would like to see to the extreme; you know—free trade area and everything else. And he's right trying

to push it towards the end of the Kangaroo's tail. Something like that. [laughter] It's right, it's right.

[Unidentified correspondent] Is it helpful?

[Rafidah] Well, the problem is that if you want to push something that is so much [words indistinct] that not everybody can swallow, even to one tenth level, you won't get anywhere, you see. But if you would come up with something that's practical, pragmatic, the people can accept very quickly. There'll be no constraint or opposition. But if you keep on pushing something that's not viable and that cannot be acceptable to everybody, surely you don't get anywhere. You can talk for 24 hours; it won't happen. [end recording]

Philippines' Ramos Comments on APEC Meetings

*BK2311114193 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE
in English 22 Nov 93 pp 1, 9*

[Text] Seattle, Washington—President Ramos yesterday said that the leaders of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) nations came to a remarkable similarity of views on the most effective way of maintaining and accelerating economic growth and enhancing their people's welfare. The president made the statement in a press conference with Filipino journalists after returning from Blake Island where the last day of the two-day APEC leaders' meeting was held.

The president said that together, the APEC leaders recognized certain fundamental problems that beset their economies. Among them were continued distortions in trade, shortage of energy supply, inadequate infrastructure, and lack of appropriately trained manpower. The president said he pointed out that national and regional security in today's world depends less on arms buildups than on economic linkages.

"It was therefore affirmed that member-economies and their cooperation within APEC should focus on measures to facilitate trade, harmonize trading and investment rules, investment in energy and other infrastructure, and the development of human resources through training and education," the president said.

The president reiterated his call for recognition of the diversity of the APEC economies in size and level of development and, consequently, of the need for the developed members to pay particular attention and extend special consideration to the concerns of the developing members, including their debt burden. He said the meeting had given him the chance to relate to the other leaders the top priority program of his government to bring about political stability, economic growth and specific targets such as energy sufficiency, protection of the environment and streamlining of the bureaucracy.

"Our environment program received particular support from my colleagues. We could use this universal concern

for the environment to devise creative solutions to our debt problem involving debt-for-nature swaps," he said.

To advance cooperation in APEC, the leaders agreed to hold a finance ministers' meeting next year and to hold business roundtables. The president said his colleagues agreed to his suggestion that the development of small and medium-scale industries could be greatly assisted by a training program to help them produce competitive products.

"Studies will be done in this project between now and our next meeting in Indonesia next year," the president said.

The leaders' meeting, the president said, gave them all the chance to be better acquainted with one another "something which would ease considerably the relations among our countries and peoples."

The president expressed his thanks to President Bill Clinton for convening this meeting and the government and people of the United States and of the State of Washington for the warmth and generosity of their hospitality.

On Friday afternoon (Saturday morning in Manila), the president had a one-on-one meeting with President Clinton. He described the nature of the meeting as an "exchanging of telephone and fax numbers, and getting to call each other by his nickname."

Following the one-on-one meeting President Ramos and the First Lady attended a dinner hosted by President Clinton for the APEC leaders at the Four Seasons Olympic Hotel.

Singapore Willing To Join NAFTA if Invited

BK2411055693 Singapore BUSINESS TIMES in English 23 Nov 93 p 1

[By Yang Razali Kassim in Seattle]

[Text] Singapore will accept if there is an offer to join NAFTA, Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong said yesterday.

"If Singapore is invited, Singapore will accept an offer to join NAFTA" he disclosed in a post-APEC summit press conference with Singapore and Japanese journalists covering the summit. The prime minister said Singapore's intention to link up with NAFTA would not, however, detract from the importance it attached to ASEAN.

"ASEAN is always important for us. We place great store on the ASEAN Free Trade Area. But Singapore's major export market is the U.S. Singapore wants to have continued access to the U.S. market."

ASEAN, through its ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA), should also be linked to NAFTA. But if other ASEAN countries feel they are not ready for this, Singapore will link up with NAFTA first.

In an interview with BUSINESS TIMES recently in Singapore, Trade and Industry Minister S. Dhanabalan also said that Singapore was keen on joining NAFTA. The Singapore position is, however, likely to prove controversial within ASEAN. Mr. Goh conceded that it would take time for ASEAN to see the need for such a link-up. For the bigger economies in ASEAN which are more regulated than Singapore's, such as Indonesia's, joining NAFTA would mean they would have to harmonise their trade rules with NAFTA's and possibly lower their barriers.

He said there was no need to rush into it, if the rest were not ready. But in the meantime, a study ought to be done to assess the advantages or otherwise for ASEAN of joining Nafta.

"If the others are not ready to go in, then Singapore will go in first," said Mr. Goh.

Mr. Goh said he raised the possibility of NAFTA being extended to Asia during talks among Asia-Pacific leaders who met for high-level talks here for the first time last week. He said NAFTA, like AFTA, is now a sub-group of APEC, the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation forum. He suggested to the leaders that once NAFTA is consolidated, it should consider extending the free trade arrangement to other countries in Asia. This could be done either singly or on a regional basis.

Regionally, the North American Free Trade Agreement, which covers the United States, Canada, and Mexico, could link up with AFTA and perhaps with Australia and New Zealand as well under their Closer Economic Relations Trade Agreement.

Mr. Goh said if NAFTA could be extended to other members of APEC, it would evolve into a Pacific Free Trade Area (PAFTA).

Apart from the continued access to the U.S. market, Singapore needs a secure environment in Asia and the world to grow economically. Over the next three decades, the two dominant economic powers in Asia would be Japan and China. Given the political and security implications of such economic dominance, there would be a need to balance these two powers with a third—the U.S.

There would therefore be a need to lock the political and economic interests of the US in Asia. APEC provides the architecture with which a triangular balance could be achieved. Mr. Goh said. The scenario of a three-way balance was put across at the APEC summit as a Singapore vision of the Asia Pacific in the 21st century.

Mr. Goh said there was consensus among the Asia-Pacific leaders for this balance of economic power.

Japan

U.S. Firm Pulls Out Due to Distribution System

OW2411001593 Tokyo KYODO in English 2336 GMT
23 Nov 93

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 24 KYODO—U.S. trading company Cargill Inc. has pulled out of Japan's beef market and sold its beef processing factory near Tokyo to a leading Japanese meat processor, a leading business daily reported Wednesday [24 November].

Cargill Japan Ltd., a local unit of the giant U.S. company specializing in agricultural products, sold the beef processing factory in Funabashi, Chiba Prefecture late last month to Nippon Meat Packers Inc., the NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN said.

The factory had been run since 1990 by Cargill Foods Japan, a joint venture owned 66.7 percent by Cargill Japan and the remainder by Showa Sangyo Co., a major Japanese food processor.

Cargill stopped business operations by Cargill Foods Japan on October 31 and is to liquidate, possibly by next spring, the newspaper said.

The factory processed beef purchased in Japan and imported from the U.S. and Canada for sale to restaurants and supermarkets, but had poor sales due to difficulties in coping with Japan's distribution system, which is marked by tough demands for frequent deliveries, it said.

Kumagai on EC-U.S. Farm Dispute Talks

OW2411060993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0539 GMT
24 Nov 93

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 24 KYODO—The European Community (EC) and the United States are likely to settle their farm dispute at the next meeting scheduled for next Wednesday as part of the stalled Uruguay Round of global trade talks, Japanese Government sources said Wednesday [24 November].

Although the two sides reportedly failed to strike a final deal during two days of ministerial talks ended Tuesday in Washington, the sources said a possibility is increasing that the U.S.-EC dispute may be solved at the next ministerial meeting on December 1 in Brussels.

Officials involved in negotiations hinted that progress was made when EC External Economic Relations Commissioner Sir Leon Brittan and U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor discussed pending issues in the world trade talks, being held under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), the sources said.

International Trade and Industry Minister Hiroshi Kumagai said at a press conference that the "difference between the two has become narrower" and that "the gap will become thinner after next week." Once the U.S.-EC negotiations come to a conclusion, the focal

point of the long-delayed round of talks will shift to opening Japan's rice market, forcing the Japanese Government to make a final decision on the issue, the sources said.

Tokyo and Washington have reportedly agreed unofficially that a six-year moratorium is to be allowed for Japan to replace its import ban with tariffs, if it accepts a minimum access of about 400,000 tons of foreign rice in the initial year.

The Japanese Government's final decision, however, depends on whether the U.S. and EC agree on market access in agricultural and audiovisual sectors, they said. If the two economies come to a final agreement in Brussels next week, the Japanese Government is likely to clarify its position on the rice issue.

More Chinese Held for Alleged Illegal Entry

OW2411035593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0322 GMT
24 Nov 93

[Text] Wakayama, Nov. 24 KYODO—Six more Chinese were arrested Wednesday [24 November] on suspicion of trying to enter Japan illegally, bringing the total arrested from a ship anchored near Shirahama, Wakayama Prefecture, to 97, police said. Police intend to send the arrested Chinese to the prosecutors from Wednesday afternoon.

On Monday, police boarded the vessel, the 200-ton No. 1 Zhenyang, anchored in a bay 300 meters south of the hot spring of Tsubaki, near Shirahama, where they initially found 15 Chinese people.

The captain of the boat and a man considered to be the group's leader were among those rounded up. Police are still trying to establish whether any particular organization was behind the attempt.

The boat set sail from China's coastal province of Fujian, which is also believed to be the home province of most of the would-be immigrants.

Documents Exchanged With Israel on Tax Treaty

OW2411101093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0957 GMT
24 Nov 93

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 24 KYODO—Japan and Israel exchanged documents ratifying a treaty to avoid double taxation on income and prevent tax evasion, the Foreign Ministry said Wednesday. Vice Foreign Minister Kuni-hiko Saito and Israeli Ambassador to Japan Amos Ganor exchanged the documents at the ministry.

The treaty, which Japan and Israel signed March 8 in Tokyo, will take effect on December 24, it said. It ensures each country's tax on company income will be imposed only on the profits earned by the branch of a firm from the other nation, allows exchanges of information on taxation and avoids double taxation through the "deduction for foreign tax" method.

Mongolian Prime Minister Arrives for Visit*OW2411054693 Tokyo KYODO in English 0433 GMT
24 Nov 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 24 KYODO—Mongolian Prime Minister Puntsagiyn Jasray arrived Wednesday [24 November] on a five-day trip to Japan for talks with Japanese Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa.

Jasray, the first Mongolian prime minister to visit Japan since the nation began democratization efforts and a shift toward a market economy, will meet Hosokawa on Thursday to discuss bilateral and international issues, Foreign Ministry officials said. Hosokawa is expected to reiterate Japan's support for Mongolia's democratization efforts during the talks, the officials said.

Jasray is expected to explain the nation's ties with Russia and China and its intention to strengthen relations with Japan and Western countries, they said. He may also voice support for Japan's role in the United Nations, they said.

Jasray is scheduled to meet with Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko, Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata, former Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and Japanese business leaders.

During the prime minister's stay in Japan, Mongolia and Japan will sign documents concerning direct flights between the two nations, yen loans, grant-in-aid cooperation and cultural grant-in-aid cooperation, the officials said.

Since 1991, Japan has hosted three international conferences on assistance to Mongolia. At the third conference this September, Japan pledged 2 billion yen in grant-in-aid to promote efforts to beef up Mongolia's economic structure as well as some 3.3 billion yen in loans toward completion of a railroad transportation system.

Jasray is scheduled to visit Nagoya, Osaka and Kyoto before leaving Japan on Sunday.

UN Envoy on Permanent Security Council Seat*OW2411035993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0342 GMT
24 Nov 93*

[Text] New York, Nov. 23 KYODO—Japanese Ambassador to the United Nations Yoshio Hatano signaled Tuesday [23 November] that Japan would welcome any move to give it a permanent place on an expanded United Nations Security Council.

Speaking in English and using vague, diplomatic terms, Hatano did not refer directly to the question of a permanent seat. Instead, he told the General Assembly that "Japan is prepared to do all it can do to discharge its responsibilities in the reformed United Nations and in response to the expectations of the international community."

Hatano's comments, in a debate on reforming the U.N., were an apparent reference to the Japanese Government's stated wish to have a permanent seat on the council.

The Liberal Democratic Party government, ousted in the summer, made clear it wanted Japan to become a permanent member of the council, and Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa has said he will adhere to the main thrust of the previous government's policies.

"With the end of the Cold War, the international community is placing ever greater expectations on the United Nations," Hatano said. "Today, the organization is confronted with unprecedented challenges and opportunities."

"Under these circumstances, the legitimacy and credibility of the Security Council must be enhanced through a process of reform. The need to expand the membership of the Security Council while ensuring its effectiveness is thus gaining support throughout the international community."

Hatano said Japan supports a draft resolution calling on the General Assembly to establish a working group to discuss U.N. reform and is "hopeful" that a solution can be found in time for the 50th anniversary of the U.N. in 1995.

Government Joins Group Helping Refugees*OW2411053793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0402 GMT
24 Nov 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 24 KYODO—Japan has joined the International Organization for Migration, which helps in the orderly movement and resettlement of refugees and other displaced people, the Foreign Ministry said Wednesday [24 November].

A board meeting of the organization in Geneva unanimously accepted Japan's application to join as its 51st member, the ministry said. Japan has had observer status since 1961, but applied for membership on October 22 to promote international cooperation on problems involving refugees around the world, it said.

Since 1985, Tokyo has been voluntarily offering annual donations to the group's activities, which include providing medical services, language tuition and counseling. It disbursed 1.35 million dollars in fiscal 1992, which ended in March this year.

Government on 'Serious Study' of Rice Market*OW2411103593 Tokyo KYODO in English 1026 GMT
24 Nov 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 24 KYODO—Japan will decide whether to open its rice market after international negotiators make a compromise proposal to break an impasse on farm products in the Uruguay Round of world trade talks, a senior government official said Wednesday [24

November]. The official, who declined to be identified by name, did not say when such a proposal might be made.

"Japan will make a serious study (on whether to open its rice market) after the proposal is put forward," the official said.

The official predicted the proposal will be made by the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) after negotiations on farm trade between the United States and the European Community (EC).

Reports from Washington said the U.S. and the EC are likely to strike a deal when they resume talks next week. Both sides reported progress but no agreement in two days of discussions that ended in Washington on Tuesday.

The government official said the proposal will revise an early plan for the settlement of farm trade prepared by former GATT Director General Arthur Dunkel. Japan is involved in negotiations to prepare a plan it deems acceptable, the official said.

The deadline for conclusion of the Uruguay round has been set for December 15.

SDP Lawmakers Threaten To Leave Coalition

*OW2411144693 Tokyo KYODO in English 1436 GMT
24 Nov 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 24 KYODO—Two senior lawmakers of the Social Democratic Party (SDP) threatened Wednesday [24 November] that the party will quit the ruling coalition if the government agrees to open the rice market to imports, SDP officials said. Koken Nosaka, chairman of the SDP's Diet administration committee, and Kazuhiko Tsuji, head of its agriculture and fishery department, made the warning in a meeting with Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa, the officials said.

Tsuji reportedly told Hosokawa, "the dominant opinion in my department is that the SDP should not stay in the government if the coalition abandons its agreement to oppose tariffication of rice imports."

The seven coalition parties agreed in July to oppose liberalization of the rice market as a condition for forming a government.

Hosokawa was quoted by the officials as telling Tsuji he "cannot negotiate (on the rice issue) if my hands are tied."

The SDP, the largest force in the seven-party coalition, will hold a meeting Thursday to unify its stance on the rice issue.

The Uruguay Round of world trade talks under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade has been set a December 15 deadline for conclusion. Japan's rejection of lifting its ban on rice imports to protect domestic

farmers has been one of the major obstacles to successfully wrapping up the round.

Government sources earlier said the United States is proposing that Japan replace its import ban with tariffs after a six-year moratorium. During the six years, Japan would be required to import at least 3 percent of its rice consumption or about 300,000 tons, the sources said.

In a related development, some 70 members of the coalition set up a parliamentary league to support Japan's self-sufficiency in rice. Former Farm Minister Masami Tanabu, who was elected chairman of the league, urged the members to help the government keep the ban at an inaugural meeting in Tokyo.

LDP Seeks More Concessions on Political Reform

*OW2411073393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0725 GMT
24 Nov 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 24 KYODO—The main opposition Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) will seek further concessions on political reform from the coalition government when the House of Councillors debates reform bills, LDP President Yohei Kono said Wednesday [24 November].

The government-proposed package of political reform bills cleared the House of Representatives last week and now has to be passed by the upper house.

Kono said at a lecture meeting that the LDP will strive in upper house debate to have its reform proposals adopted as much as possible.

The seven-party coalition of Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa modified its own package in response to the LDP's demands and pushed it through the lower house. But the LDP, ousted from power in August after 38 years of uninterrupted rule, says the concessions were not enough.

Political reform featuring changes in the electoral system and tighter control of political funding has topped the agenda in Japan for the past five years as scandal after scandal erupted, involving LDP politicians for the most part.

Hosokawa has hinted he would resign if the reform bills fail to clear parliament by the end of the year.

Kono also slammed the government for not introducing a supplementary budget bill to the current extraordinary Diet session, a measure which he said is urgently needed to give a shot in the arm to Japan's ailing economy. The government is expected to table the draft budget bill next Tuesday.

The LDP leader also pointed to the need for the government to have the administration of U.S. President Bill Clinton understand that the current yen-dollar exchange rate is suffocating Japanese firms.

"Does Mr. Hosokawa believe the current exchange rate is appropriate? I believe he should have the U.S. side understand how much trouble we have" as a result of the high yen, now hovering around 108 yen to the dollar, Kono said.

Parties Fail To Agree on Debate in Upper House

*OW2411141693 Tokyo KYODO in English 1404 GMT
24 Nov 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 24 KYODO—The ruling coalition government and the opposition Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) on Wednesday [24 November] failed to agree on when to begin deliberations on political reform bills in the House of Councillors, political sources said. Directors of the steering committee of the upper house and chiefs of the parties' Diet affairs committees held negotiations to break a deadlock.

The ruling coalition proposed that debates on the package of political reform bills submitted by the government begin Thursday, they said. The package of four bills was passed by the more powerful House of Representatives last week.

The LDP refused the proposed schedule, however, saying the upper house should discuss a supplementary budget to boost the economy before conferring on the reform bills, the sources said.

The current extraordinary Diet session ends December 15 but could be extended. Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa has indicated he will resign if political reform is not achieved by the year-end.

Tobishima Chief Allegedly Bribed Governor

*OW2411055393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0412 GMT
24 Nov 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 24 KYODO—The former honorary chairman of Tobishima Corp. and his son jointly handed a 10 million yen bribe to then Ibaraki Gov. Fujio Takeuchi in 1991 at a Tokyo restaurant, sources close to prosecutors said Wednesday [24 November].

Sukemasa Uera, 85, and his son Soichiro, 58-year-old vice president of the construction giant, invited Takeuchi to dine with them at the restaurant in January 1991, with an eye to turning over the money, the sources said.

The Tokyo District Public Prosecutors Office will decide whether to take action against the two by the year-end, they said.

Uera and his son told prosecutors in a series of questioning sessions that they gave the money to Takeuchi as a reward for his intervention in diverting a 38 billion yen dam project to Tobishima around 1988 and to secure further prefectural contracts, the sources said.

Although the Ueras are not in police custody, they complied with the prosecutors' summons to be questioned.

Takeuchi, who resigned as governor after being arrested, has been indicted on charges of taking a total of 85 million yen in bribes from Hazama Corp., Shimizu Corp. and Kajima Corp. in exchange for giving them prefectural public works projects.

The 10 million yen was handed directly to Takeuchi by Soichiro Uera, who asked the governor to remember Tobishima in future business with the prefectural government on top of that for the dam project, according to the sources.

Taisei Corp., another construction giant, was widely regarded at the time as the most likely winner of the Koyama dam project in the late 1980s, but Tobishima and Kajima were awarded the project on orders from Takeuchi to prefectural officials, the sources said.

The elder Uera was also the chairman of the "Keiei Konwakai," a now-disbanded forum where major construction firms based in Tokyo reportedly used to hold consultations to rig bids.

Takeuchi, a former senior Construction Ministry bureaucrat, was first elected governor of the prefecture in 1975 and was arrested on July 23 in his fifth four-year term in office. He quit the governorship on August 11.

'Sluggish' Economy Predicted Until Year-End

*OW2411080993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0747 GMT
24 Nov 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 24 KYODO—Japan's industrial production may remain sluggish at least until the end of the year due to poor final demand, the Ministry of International Trade and Industry [MITI] predicted Wednesday [24 November] in a quarterly report. Since inventory adjustment has been at a standstill, there is concern its completion might be delayed further, said Koichi Yoshimoto, chief of the Ministry's Statistics Analysis Division.

The report, analyzing trends of output at factories and mines during the July-September period, said production remained unchanged from the previous quarter, while shipments increased on a quarterly basis for the first time in two quarters and inventories rose for the first time in five quarters.

Industrial output in the third quarter, however, dropped 3.8 percent from a year earlier, the eighth consecutive quarter of yearly declines.

Shipments edged up 0.4 percent from the previous quarter, posting a 3.3 percent yearly fall, while inventories at the end of September increased 1.1 percent from three months earlier, falling 3.6 percent from a year before.

Yoshimoto predicted dull private consumption and sluggish capital spending may continue for some time, keeping domestic shipments of consumer and capital goods from recovering. Trends in exports may be weak, while imports could grow slightly, he said.

BOJ's Governor Mieno 'Doubts' New Recession

*OW2411081193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0759 GMT
24 Nov 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 24 KYODO—Bank of Japan [BOJ] Governor Yasushi Mieno said Wednesday [24 November] no signs of economic recovery have emerged but that he doubts Japan is headed for a new recession.

Corporate sentiment is becoming weaker and the ongoing slide in Japanese share prices reflects stagnant economic activity, he told a regular news conference. No concrete signs of economic recovery are visible, Mieno said, but the economy is not likely to hit "a worsening spiral," he said.

Underlying economic strength for a recovery remains, he said, adding that he expects cumulative benefit from past fiscal and monetary stimulus measures and a coming supplementary budget.

Mieno made no specific prediction about the timing of an economic turnaround, continuing to avoid mentioning the central bank's official scenario that recovery should start by the end of the fiscal year next March.

Mieno said no new measures are needed at the moment since the central bank has taken "the maximum steps" to boost the economy, especially with a series of cuts in the official discount rate to a record low 1.75 percent a year. But he said the central bank will continue to keep close watch on economic conditions.

Final economic demand remains weak as there is no sign of pickup in personal and corporate capital spending, he said, but he repeated that housing and public sector investment are improving.

The economy needs more private-sector vitality to return to recovery, he said.

Mieno expressed "grave concern" about the slump in the Tokyo stock market, where a key index sank temporarily below 17,000 Wednesday, saying slumping stocks have effects on various economic sectors.

Defending financial institutions that have come under fire for tightening their lending practices with bankruptcies on the rise, Mieno said they are not halting their financing activities. Banks must write off their nonperforming loans—a legacy of the speculative "bubble" economy of the late 1980s—to build up healthy assets to strengthen their future financial position, he said.

Postal savings should follow banks in liberalizing deposit accounts and not become the "price leader," Mieno said when asked about liberalizing rates on liquid deposits.

He echoed calls by the banking industry for a rule that would not increase the current fund shift from private-sector accounts to the postal savings accounts.

Such a rule is needed to increase convenience for ordinary deposit holders and boost competition and efficiency in financial markets, Mieno said.

The issue is under consideration by the Finance Ministry, which regulates private financial institutions, and the posts and telecommunications ministry, which is in charge of the country's huge postal savings system.

Mieno expressed hope that economic stimulus measures will emerge from the government's current "wide-ranging study" of such steps as tax cuts.

To improve business sentiment, he called for more deregulation and said the central bank and private-sector institutions must strengthen banks' "intermediary function as lenders." Such steps could help the recovery of capital spending and corporate research and development, he said.

Asked about the direction of market interest rates, where a key three-month issue has been testing historic lows, Mieno said the Bank of Japan is doing its utmost to make market rates reflect actual economic conditions but that the movements should be up to market participants. He acknowledged that rates reflect the central bank's market-funding stance.

Money market dealers have said they are waiting for a clear signal that the central bank is loosening its grip on market liquidity to guide rates down further.

Industrial Activity 'Remains Stagnant'

*OW2411092793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0857 GMT
24 Nov 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 24 KYODO—Japan's industrial activity remains stagnant, except for output and shipments of semiconductors, the Economic Planning Agency said Wednesday [24 November] in its report for November.

The agency said oil refiners and textile makers report growth in inventories, and electrical appliance makers also say they have high levels of air conditioners held in stock.

Agency officials said industrial production is likely to remain stagnant for some time, although domestic shipments of color televisions and microwave ovens showed signs of bottoming out.

Many industries have cut their projections of sales and profits for the second half of fiscal 1993, which started on October 1, and have implemented efforts to cut costs and withdraw from unprofitable business areas.

Steel and automobile makers are trying to cut labor costs, with temporary layoffs, relocation of employees and curbs on recruitment, it said.

Business, Labor Agree on Income Tax Cut Need*OW2411035493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0318 GMT
24 Nov 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 24 KYODO—Japan's top business and labor leaders agreed Wednesday [24 November] that income tax cuts of more than 5 trillion yen should be implemented to stimulate the economy, sources said.

The agreement came in a regular meeting of business and labor leaders, including Gaishi Hiraiwa, chairman of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren), and Akira Yamagishi, chairman of the Japanese Trade Union Confederation (Rengo).

The leaders also agreed on the need for administrative reforms, including wide-ranging economic deregulation, the sources said. The leaders said they will separately urge the government to implement the tax cuts and administrative reforms.

Mongolia**Prime Minister Leaves on Visit to Japan***LD2411025093 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in
Russian 0210 GMT 24 Nov 93*

[ITAR-TASS correspondent Kim Boldokhonov]

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 24 Nov—Mongolian Prime Minister Puntsagiyn Jasray left for Tokyo on an official visit today. During his five-day stay in Japan the head of the Mongolian Government will be received by Emperor Akihito, have talks with Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa, and meet other officials and representatives of business circles. The visit agenda includes trips to a number of Japanese towns. Bilateral documents relating to the development of cooperation between Mongolia and Japan are expected to be signed.

Defense Minister Says Armed Forces 'Disarmed'*OW1011112893 Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service in
Chinese 1005 GMT 6 Nov 93*

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 5 Nov (XINHUA)—Mongolia's Defense Minister Shagaliyn Jadambaa announced today that Mongolia has disarmed its armed forces in recent years. Compared with other countries, it now has a very small number of troops, which will not be increased in the future.

He made the statement at a news conference today while introducing the "National Defense Law of Mongolia," which was just approved by the regular autumn session of the Mongolian Great People's Hural.

He said: Mongolia's national defense is mainly controlled through political means. In the future, based on the country's actual conditions, Mongolia will pay more attention to establishing professional technical arms such as air defense troops. However, because of current

economic difficulties, it is impossible for Mongolia to use large sums of foreign currency to send more soldiers for overseas study or purchase modern weaponry. He told reporters: The current equipment of Mongolia's Armed Forces has all been supplied by the former Soviet Union. Some is obsolete while parts of others are worn out. However, the country is incapable of embarking on large-scale refurbishment. The Mongolian Armed Forces will pay attention to making full use of and mastering existing weaponry, and will gradually upgrade and modernize its equipment when conditions are ripe.

The "National Defense Law of Mongolia" consists of five chapters and 25 articles. According to its stipulations, border defense and engineering troops do not come under armed forces. The law's general program stipulates that "Mongolia will rely on its own armed forces and people to protect the motherland from external armed provocation and aggression. When necessary, it will request assistance from other countries in accordance with the stipulations of the UN Charter." The article on cooperation with foreign countries stipulates that Mongolia will "undertake defense cooperation with other countries in accordance with generally recognized international standards."

Ruling Party Bans Factional Activities*OW0111114693 Beijing XINHUA in English 1052
GMT 1 Nov 93*

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, November 1 (XINHUA)—Mongolia's ruling People's Revolutionary Party, which has three factions within, has decided to ban factional activities with a view to maintaining party unity.

The decision was made at the third session of the 21st party congress held here from October 31 to November 1.

The session also resolved that Budragchaagiyn Dash-Yondon continues to be the general secretary.

Meanwhile, B. Enhmandah was elected the party's new secretary.

The Mongolian People's Revolution Party, which has 86,000 members and holds 71 seats in the 74-seat Great People's Hural (parliament), is the only party that has constituted the current government.

North Korea**Red Cross Delegation To Go to Panmunjom 14 Dec***SK2411110593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1032
GMT 24 Nov 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, November 24 (KCNA)—Yi Song-ho, acting chairman of the Central Committee of the DPRK Red Cross Society, in a telephone message to his South Korean counterpart, Kang Yong-hun, today expressed the belief that the South Korean Red Cross would take a

measure for immediately handing a letter and relics of Korean People's Army [KPA] prisoners of war [POW's] over to the North side from the stand of setting store by the humanitarian idea and the national dignity.

In the message he said, "We think it very regrettable that although we requested you through a letter to you on May 5 that the letter and relics of KPA POWs newly discovered at the site of the POW camp set up by the U.S. forces in Koje Island more than 40 years ago be handed over to our side, the South Korean Red Cross is still failing to show any response to it."

"If the South Korean Red Cross whose idea is respect for the international law and humanitarianism should refuse to the last moment to deliver the relics and letter of the People's Army POWs that accused the U.S. forces of their murderous atrocities, acting under the manipulation of the 'Security Planning Board' and bowing to its pressure, it would be committing a never-to-be-condoned hideous crime," the message notes.

It notifies the South Korean Red Cross that two competent officials would be sent to the conference room of the neutral nations supervisory commission at Panmunjom on December 14 that marks the lapse of one year since the discovery of the material, to take it over.

South Korean Defector to North Interviewed

*SK2311052593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0433
GMT 23 Nov 93*

[**"S. Korean Defector Interviewed"**—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, November 23 (KCNA)—Sin Tong-yul, 30, who left South Korea and came to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea some time ago through a third country with his six months old son, Sin Hye-song, was interviewed by reporters here.

Hailing from Poryong County, South Chungchong Province, he served the army before being hired as a waiter at restaurants in Seoul and Taejon and running a company supplying foodstuff to nearby restaurants and a draft beer house together with another person.

He has his old parents in South Korea.

Explaining the motive of his coming over to the North, he said it was his disillusion about the present "regime" styling itself a "civilian government" and protest against it.

Noting that the present "regime" oppresses the people in a more crafty and shameless way than the former military dictatorial "regime", he said he left for a third country under the guise of tour, resolved to come to the North where all the people live an equal and dignified life.

He said that he was watched by the "Security Planning Board" [SPB] on his foreign tour and his wife and three years old daughter were taken away by "SPB" agents in

a third country on the way to the North and so he could not but come to the North only with his six months old son.

He stressed that "civilian administration" and "reforms" advertised by Kim Yong-sam were a downright lie for fooling the people and defending the privileged circles.

He said:

"Kim Yong-sam has covered up the swindles of the rich and those in power in a more crafty and vicious way than the 'Fifth and Sixth Republics,' while exploiting and oppressing the labouring masses."

"Kim Chong-pil, a remnant element of Yusin, is still active in the ruling party, the people's demand for the judgement of Chon Tu-hwan and No Tae-u is ignored, the students calling for reunification are repressed and an unbroken chain of war exercises against fellow countrymen are staged."

Giving his impressions of the North, he told reporters:

"Seeing the beautiful manners and customs and the soul of our nation alive here unlike in South Korea, I felt that this is my country, the true motherland of the Korean nation.

"My son was seriously ill at the time of my defection, but he has recovered and become very well and is growing in good health at a nursery here. This fact alone is enough to convince me that the politics shaped by the great President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Mr. Kim Chong-il is genuine politics for the people.

"Socialism in the North is a beacon of hope and the most precious nest of life for me," he said, expressing his resolve to repay the great favours of the great President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Mr. Kim Chong-il with a sense of obligation and devote himself to the noble cause of national reunification.

SKNDF White Paper Details 'Injustices'

*SK2411082293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0418
GMT 24 Nov 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, November 24 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the South Korean National Democratic Front [SKNDF] (Hanminjon) made public a "white paper on injustices of South Korean public officials" on November 11 exposing irregularities which had become all the more monstrous, crafty, deep-seated and malignant among the South Korean ruling quarters, radio Voice of National Salvation reported.

According to the white paper, the public offices in South Korea give their holders a licence for irregularities and acquit them.

The Chon Tu-hwan group amassed wealth amounting to 16,000 billion won through the loan scandal, the election

fund scandal, the "peace dam" construction case and many other large-scale, power-backed scandals.

The No Tae-u group, too, accumulated political fund and wealth amounting to tens of thousands of billion won by partaking of the Suso housing scandal, the Yulgok arms buildup project, etc.

The Kim Yong-sam "regime" has fostered the speculation of the privileged circles, covering up and understating the irregularities.

The "Democratic Liberal Party" [DLP] received 12,600 million won as political fund in the period from March to July this year alone.

According to the "declaration of wealth" made recently under the pressure of the people, 166 "National Assemblymen" from the "DLP" respectively have wealth worth 3,500 million won on an average, nine "assemblymen" more than 10,000 million won and 14 "assemblymen" 5,000-10,000 million won.

Noting that as long as those who were sponging on the people remained in power, the irregularities prevalent in South Korea could never be removed, the white paper stressed:

"The people of all walks of life must realise through their struggle the desire to build a just, democratic society."

Radio Reports Statement on 'Biochemical Weapons'

SK2311235093 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2100 GMT 23 Nov93

[Text] Interviewed by KCNA today as regards the recent disclosure of new evidence proving that the United States staged biochemical warfare during the Korean war, the DPRK Foreign Ministry spokesman said:

Recently, the Japanese paper TOKYO SHIMBUN made public material saying the United States fully prepared and staged biochemical warfare during the Korean war. According to a copied text of a top secret document of the U.S. Defence Department found at the U.S. National Archives in Washington, the U.S. forces went ahead with full preparations for biochemical warfare to use germ and toxic weapons during the Korean war. The then chief of staff of the U.S. Air Force suggested that the former policy be given up on biochemical weapons which stipulated that: They shall be used only for the purpose of retaliation. This irrefutably proves that the United States used germ and toxic weapons at random during the Korean war.

Such a crime committed by the United States was already proved by the testimony of U.S. airmen who were taken prisoner while participating in the poison gas and bacteriological warfare during the Korean war. It

was also made clear by an international lawyers investigation group, a fact-finding group of the Women's International Democratic Federation and a scientists' fact-finding group on the use of germ weapons. The United States, however, has denied the stark fact well known in the world. Criminal acts are bound to be revealed at any time.

As the crimes committed by it during the Korean war have been fully revealed through its own document, the United States can no longer evade responsibility for violating of the universally recognized international law and elementary human morality. The danger of nuclear war and chemical warfare has not been dispelled on the Korean peninsula still today when 40 years have passed since the Korean war ceased.

Since the cease-fire, the United States has amassed nuclear and chemical weapons in South Korea. The South Korean authorities who had zealously taken part in the biochemical warfare during the Korean and Vietnamese wars have pushed ahead with preparations for chemical warfare, producing and stockpiling a large number of chemical weapons with the connivance of the United States.

The United States and the South Korean authorities themselves who signed the convention on banning chemical weapons and have urged other countries to do the same are now getting overheated with preparations for chemical warfare. This is a gross mockery of the international community.

Having committed indelible grave crimes against mankind, the United States and the South Korean authorities customarily deny them in a far-fetched manner and abandon their obligations under the international convention without hesitation. Yet, they are ridiculously trying to isolate and stifle our republic, vainly suspecting and cavilling about our non-existent so-called nuclear problem.

We who had directly suffered damages from biochemical weapons and are better aware of its danger than anyone else have considered the use of biochemical weapons as an inhuman criminal act and are now maintaining a resolute stand against it.

The United States must immediately withdraw its biochemical weapons as well as the nuclear weapons from South Korea and prevent South Korea from producing biochemical weapons.

The South Korean authorities must give up the criminal scheme to murder its fellow countrymen by manufacturing biochemical weapons with the backing of the outside forces.

South Said Behind Stall in DPRK-U.S. Talks

SK2411091493 *Pyongyang KCNA in English* 0429
GMT 24 Nov 93

[“NODONG SINMUN on Belligerent Moves of South Korean Authorities Against North”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, November 24 (KCNA)—The South Korean authorities at a “meeting of security-related ministers” on November 20 decided to strengthen a “security posture” against the North. This clearly shows once again that they seek only confrontation and war, not dialogue and peace, and pursue the sinister aim to unleash a war on any account, says NODONG SINMUN in a signed commentary today.

The news analyst says:

An extremely dangerous situation in which a war may break out any moment has been created on the Korean peninsula by the South Korean bellicose elements. At present, the frantic “Foal Eagle 93” nuclear war exercise and the “Hwarang” manoeuvres are being staged in South Korea in actuality. Involved in the exercises are the aggression forces and puppet Armed Forces, more than 4.5 million men in all, and latest-type equipment of various kinds.

Clear is the aim sought by the South Korean ruling quarters in intensifying their frenzied belligerent moves against the North.

They are trying to do harm to the fellow countrymen with the backing of outside forces at any cost on the plea of the fictitious “nuclear problem” of the North and, at the same time, to get something by putting the brake on the third round of DPRK-USA talks for the solution of the nuclear problem on the Korean peninsula.

The provocative military manoeuvrings against the North, however, will bring nothing good to them. Since the bellicose nature of the South Korean rulers who are seeking confrontation and war, not dialogue and negotiations, has been dragged into the light of day, the Korean people will mete out a decisive punishment to them.

The South Korean authorities must look squarely at the trend of the times and act with discretion.

‘World Public’ Denounces Clinton 7 Nov Remarks

SK2411104093 *Pyongyang KCNA in English* 1026
GMT 24 Nov 93

[“Renounce Policy Hostile to Korea at Once”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, November 24 (KCNA)—World public strongly denounced a bellicose outburst of the U.S. President against the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea.

Clinton in a recent interview with the NBC TV of the United States blared that they would not allow the

“nuclear development” of someone, saying they will strive to make the DPRK seek peace rather than head-on confrontation.

The International Liaison Committee for Reunification and Peace in Korea in a statement on November 12 said the remarks of Clinton were totally contrary to the spirit of the DPRK-U.S. joint statement and raised strong doubt as to the true intention of the United States as regards the solution of the nuclear problem.

The statement said the United States made the International Atomic Energy Agency and the United Nations adopt an unjustifiable “resolution” and is scheming to shift the blame for the delayed DPRK-U.S. talks onto the DPRK but the blame rests with the United States which is not keeping to the spirit of the DPRK-U.S. joint statement.

The U.S. double-dealing tactics against socialist Korea may cause irrevocable grave consequences to peace and security not only on the Korean peninsula but also in this region, it noted.

Amaral Matos, first secretary of the Maputo City Committee of the Mozambique Liberation Front Party, in a statement to the press on November 15 said that Clinton threw around the terms “nuclear development” and “southward invasion” getting on the nerves of the DPRK. This is a political trick designed to stifle socialist Korea, he noted, adding: “Clinton must renounce the policy hostile to Korea at once, bring the DPRK-U.S. talks to a success as soon as possible and withdraw nuclear weapons from South Korea at an early date”.

The Indonesian paper MERDEKA November 9 said it is anachronistic to try to settle the issue by means of violence and strength.

Radio Denounces U.S.-ROK ‘War Exercise’

SK2311130893 *Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean* 1150 GMT 23 Nov 93

[Commentary by station commentator Chong Pong-kil: “An Act Bringing in Fire Cloud of War”]

[Text] Currently, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are madly running amok in their war exercise maneuver, thus making our country’s situation very tense.

As is already known, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets started to hold the combined field military exercise from 15 November under the pretext of the Foal Eagle-93 exercise at the open areas including the neighboring areas of the Military Demarcation Line [MDL] of the DMZ. They are all the more holding this war exercise at a full-scale, and are bringing in the fire cloud of war.

The rascals dragged in formations of fighter bombers, pursuit assault planes, and vertical take-off and landing craft, which took off from overseas bases, near the skies

of the MDL. Along with the planes of the U.S. Air Force occupying South Korea and the planes affiliated to the puppet Air Force, they are madly running amok in the saturation bombing aimed at an overall surprise attack on the northern half of the republic. Also, hundreds of teams of the special commando units of the U.S. forces and the puppet army that are infiltrated along the whole area of the MDL of the DMZ and all parts of South Korea, are stirring up a violent war atmosphere while attacking targets selected as simulated areas of the northern half of the republic.

The rascals even dragged in tanks and large-caliber artillery units near the area of the MDL, and showered hundreds of shells near the areas of the DMZ. Thus, they are unhesitatingly carrying out acts that are seriously inciting us.

Currently, a very grave situation has been created on the Korean peninsula because of the reckless war maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets. Our consistent position is to resolve the Korean issue through the method of dialogue and negotiations. In particular, we are turning deep interest in resolving the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula, and are making all kinds of sincere efforts to resolve it through dialogue.

Currently, through our sincere efforts, the third-stage talks is on the agenda between the DPRK and the United States, and working-level delegates contact for the exchange special envoys were carried out between the North and South. Nevertheless, right at this time, the United States and the South Korean authorities are carrying out a large-scale war exercise to invade the North. This is an open challenge and provocation toward our peaceful efforts.

This again shows they have no intention to resolve the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula through dialogue.

In fact, on 2 November, Kwon Yong-hae, who is called South Korean defense minister, taking issue with our nonexistent nuclear development, openly raved that he will not hesitate to take military countermeasures [kunsajok taegung]. And, at the annual security consultative meeting held on 3 and 4 November, under the pretext of our nuclear issue, he said that the Team Spirit joint military exercise would not be discontinued.

Following the violent remarks by the puppet military leader [kunbu udumori], which were a virtual declaration of war [sasilsang chongjaengul sonpohan], and the adventurous war confabs of the aggressors and nation-sellers, a U.S.-South Korea aerial joint strike exercise and the Hwarang war exercise were staged, and the Foal Eagle-93 joint military exercise is now being viciously staged.

These war exercise commotions are too ominous [sim-sangchi annun] to be considered to be mere exercises; it would be correct to consider that the babbling by the U.S. and South Korean warmongers and their war confabs are being put into practice.

Taking issue with the nonexistent nuclear development of the North, the bastards are trying to crush [apsal] our republic through military threats and war.

Needless to say, those who are staging war exercises on land and sea and in the air after mobilizing not only the forces of aggression and puppet forces but also civilians can do anything against us. However, the warmongers have miscalculated. Even though we treasure peace, when anyone provokes us even a little, we do not forgive him [urinun pyonghwarul kwijunghui yogijiman kunuga urirul chogumirado konduril ttaeenun kyolko yongsochi ansumnida].

If the United States and the South Korean authorities ignite a fuse to war, we will punish the provokers a hundred or thousand fold. We are prepared for both war and dialogue. The U.S. and South Korean warmongers had better act with discretion after keenly realizing that war leads to self-destruction [chongjaengui kiri chamyorui kil].

Japanese Defense Chief's Remarks Criticized

SK2411045793 *Pyongyang KCNA in English* 0424
GMT 24 Nov 93

["Unbridled War Chariot of Militarism"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, November 24 (KCNA)—The general director of the Japan Defence Agency, Nakanishi, told the Security Committee of the House of Representatives a few days ago that if under the U.N. command, the use of arms by the "Self-Defence Forces" (SDF) would not violate the Constitution.

His words revealed the intention of the Japanese militarists to mobilize the "SDF" fully prepared for overseas expansion in armed intervention and war of aggression against other countries under the name of the United Nations, declares NODONG SANMUN today.

The news analyst says:

Nakanishi's argument denies the preceding interpretation of the Japanese Government that the use of arms by the "SDF" is not allowed under the Constitution.

The militarist chariot of Japan is about to run along the road of aggression and war out of control, not wedded to the Constitution.

The attempt to legalise the use of arms under the name of the United Nations is as bad as the argument of the militarist forces of Japan describing the past war of aggression as "liberation war" to drive the European dominationist forces out of Asia. The argument of the present ruling quarters of Japan is the same with the mode of thinking of the defunct militarists who ran amok in the war to conquer Asia in the past. It is motivated by the ulterior intention to repeat the history of aggression that Japan is avoiding an apology and

compensation for the blood-stained criminal aggression of the past and whitewashing the past.

It is Japan's invariable ambition to realise the old dream of "greater east Asia co-prosperity sphere" by military means and become a gendarmerie in Asia.

Korea is the first target of Japan's overseas aggression.

The Japanese authorities' outcry over the fictitious "nuclear threat" and "missile threat" from the DPRK is a sinister trick to artificially aggravate the situation on the Korean peninsula and find a pretext for military action.

Japan's option of military reinvasion would lead to its own destruction.

Japan Urged To Discard 'Reinvasion Scheme'

SK2311110593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1027
GMT 23 Nov 93

[**"Reinvasion Scheme Must Be Discarded"**—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, November 23 (KCNA)—The scheme of the Japanese militarists to invade and dominate Korea is an anachronistic daydream, and the Japanese reactionaries must discard their policy hostile to Korea and their wild ambition to stage a comeback to it, says NODONG SINMUN Tuesday in a by-lined article titled "Reinvasion Scheme Must Be Discarded".

The Japanese ruling quarters' recent talk about "appropriate reaction" and "dispatch of Armed Forces" betrays their intention to invade Korea, the article says, and continues:

It is nobody's secret that Japan regards Korea as the first target of her overseas aggression. Becoming a military power consequent upon the failure of the policy of strength pursued by superpowers, Japan is trying to realise its vaulting ambition to invade Korea at any cost. Furthermore, it intends to thrust its claws of reinvasion into Asia with the Korean peninsula as the springboard.

It is not without reason that Japan declared the Korean straits an area of her "defence sphere" and has stepped up preparations to invade Korea, crying for "pre-control" of someone's "plan of attack" and "pre-emptive strike". Japan has deployed huge armed forces in the areas opposite to the Korean peninsula for real action and steadily increased their mobile strike capabilities.

The main subject at the military academies of Japan now is education in Korean language.

With a view to realising their ambition to invade Korea the Japanese reactionaries have frequently staged joint military manoeuvres with the U.S. forces stationed in Japan and South Korea.

Also, they are tightening their tie-up with the South Korean authorities.

This was clearly borne out by the fact that the Japanese Prime Minister, Hosokawa, during his recent tour of South Korea, talked about "promotion of new companion relations oriented to the future" and "concerted action to cope with the nuclear problem" of the DPRK.

The Japanese ruling [words indistinct] to put on a new track their political and military tie-up with the South Korean puppets and intensify the anti-DPRK campaign.

Drawing public attention is the fact that of late the Japanese reactionaries are making haste with the manufacture of new medium-range missiles, raising a hue and cry over "missile threat" by the DPRK.

Their attempt to avoid liquidating the past vis-a-vis Korea reveals their attitude to repeat the history of aggression.

This proves that they are intending to invade Korea any time.

Commentary Demands Japan Apology for 'Past Crime'

SK2411091993 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 1154 GMT 22 Nov 93

[Commentary by station commentator Yun Pyong-son: "An Absurd Remark by a Flunkeyist Traitor"]

[Text] According to a report, a fellow named Kong No-myong who is the South Korean puppet's ambassador to Japan, held an interview with the Japanese paper, NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN, on 20 November. During the interview, he tried to mislead public opinion by saying that some kind of assessment is being made in South Korea and Japan in connection with the so-called apology made by Japanese Prime Minister Hosokawa while making a junket to South Korea. He also babbled that through this opportunity, relations between South Korea and Japan will become different, that past relations will be liquidated, and so on. This is truly an absurd remark which can be made only by a traitor who has taken hold of the pro-Japanese flunkeyist nation-selling idea to the marrow.

As is known, while in South Korea from 6-7 November, the Japanese prime minister tried to patch up the Japanese imperialists' aggression of Korea, which lasted for almost half a century, and its crime of the barbarous colonial rule by the mere remarks that he apologizes for this and that he is reflecting on this.

During the colonial rule period lasting for some 40 years, the countless calamity and sufferings the Japanese imperialists inflicted on the Korean people were truly great, and it will not be forgotten for a long time to come.

When viewing the comfort women issue, the Japanese imperialists forcibly made some 200,000 Korean women

sex slaves of the Imperial Army and even mercilessly took their lives. Therefore, this issue can be resolved only when the heinous antihuman crime committed by the Japanese imperialists is thoroughly elucidated, and also when they apologize and pay a just compensation.

Other issues are also the same. Recently, King Kojong's personal letter announcing that the Ulsa Five-Point Treaty is illegal and invalid according to international law, was newly discovered. Thus, it was clearly proven that in the past Japan illegally occupied and dominated our country for some 40 years by fabricating the documents through complete fraudulence. This shows that the history of crime committed by the Japanese imperialists cannot by any means be eradicated through the mere remarks of an apology and self-examination.

Therefore, the South Korean people are raging over the Japanese prime minister's so-called apology, and are strongly demanding the Japanese authorities to sincerely apologize and compensate them. Just like counting one's chickens before they are hatched, Japan is not even thinking of liquidating its past crime. Even so, the South Korean authorities babbled that the apology by the Japanese prime minister received some kind of a great assessment; that Japan-South Korea relations will change through this opportunity; that past relations will be liquidated; and so on. How is this different from the Ulsa Five-Point Treaty which sold the nation?

Liquidating the past relations which Kong No-myong is talking about is in essence to forget the history of crime committed by the Japanese imperialists. Also, saying that there will be changes in Japan-South Korea relations means the establishment of a new subordinate relationship which is in collusion with the Japanese reactionary forces and the South Korean nation-selling forces. It also signifies a new turning point in Japan's political and economic domination and military infiltration on South Korea. Just as all songs sound unmusical if they are sung by an ugly voice, only such nonsense can be said by the mouths of the flunkeyist traitors.

If it is for their own idleness and maintaining power, the South Korean ruling bunch are truly those who do not know of disgrace and who do not have any face or sense of honor. They are only an ugly nation-selling group flattering and yielding to outside forces.

The South Korean rulers—the flunkeyist nation-selling group—who are being abandoned by the people, do not have the qualifications nor the right to criticize the issue of liquidating the Japanese imperialists' past. Our nation's consistent demand is that Japan must truly apologize before the Korean people on its past crime and give a just compensation.

The South Korean ruling bunch must look correctly at the trend of the times and act with discretion.

Kim Il-song Receives Message From Yasir 'Arafat

*SK2411122893 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 0500 GMT 23 Nov 93*

[Text] The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song received a reply message from Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine and chairman of the executive committee of the PLO, for sending him a congratulatory message on the fifth anniversary of the proclamation of the state of Palestine.

The reply message is as follows:

Pyongyang.

To Your Excellency, the DPRK President Kim Il-song:

I express respect to you, Your Excellency President Kim Il-song. On behalf of our Palestine people and members of the executive committee of the PLO, who are my brothers, I express deep gratitude to Your Excellency and through you to your country's friendly government and people for sending comradely congratulations and sincere wishes on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of the proclamation of the state of Palestine which announced Palestine's independence.

This year, our people, who are welcoming this national holiday, established a national government in the lovely Gaza and Jericho which are part of the liberated fatherland and realized the first epoch-making achievement of restoring and constructing national organizations. By doing so, they are preparing to enter into a new stage in the long-range struggle course. This is the first measure in making it possible for our people to solve all problems by themselves; pioneer their own fate; and build an independent state with the sacred Quds [Jerusalem] as its capital on the fatherland.

Through this opportunity, I would like to say that I along with Your Excellency will make utmost efforts to further strengthen and develop the beneficial friendship and cooperation and solidarity ties between the people of the two countries which we treasure very much. The Palestine people are waging the just struggle to restore and exercise national and political rights to realize freedom, independence, and sovereign rights and to achieve progress and prosperity by putting an end to Israel's occupation of their land and the Holy Land.

I once again express deep gratitude to Your Excellency over the fact that the DPRK party, government, and people are continuing to send support and solidarity in our people's struggle. While sending warm gratitude to Your Excellency, I hope that Your Excellency lives a long and healthy life and enjoys a happy life. Also, I hope that there will be results in your country's people's struggle to achieve a lofty national goal of reunification, progress, and prosperity.

I express lofty respect. I send the most enthusiastic greetings of congratulations to Your Excellency who is a great friend of our people.

[Signed] Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine and chairman of the Executive Committee of the PLO
[Dated] 15 November 1993, Tunis

Kim Il-song Meets German Communist Delegation

SK2411104293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1028 GMT 24 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 24 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song today received the delegation of the Communist Party of Germany headed by its co-chairman Rolf Priemer on a visit to Korea.

Present on the occasion were secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea Hwang Chang-yop and vice-director of a department of the C.C. [Central Committee], WPK [Workers' Party of Korea] Pak Kyong-son.

President Kim Il-song conversed with the guests in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

He arranged a luncheon for them.

PRC Youth Delegation Arrives in Pyongyang

SK2411045493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0410 GMT 24 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 23 (KCNA)—A delegation of the Communist Youth League of China headed by member of the Secretariat of its Central Committee Zhao Shi arrived here today by air.

It was met at the airport by vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea Choe Hyon-tok and a councillor of the Chinese Embassy here.

Radio Notes Anniversary of Treaty With PRC

SK2411084793 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1500 GMT 22 Nov 93

[Text] On the occasion of the 40th anniversary of concluding the treaty on the economic and cultural cooperation between the DPRK and the PRC, the External Economic Committee and Ministry of Culture and Art arranged a banquet at the People's Hall of Culture on the evening of 22 November.

Invited were Qiao Zonghuai, PRC ambassador to our country, and embassy officials. Chang Chol, vice premier and minister of culture and art; Cho Kyu-il, vice minister of foreign affairs; Han Su-kil, vice chairman of the External Economic Committee; Kim Chong-ho, vice minister of the Ministry of Culture and Art; Chon Yon-ok, vice chairman of the Committee for the Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries; and other functionaries concerned attended the banquet.

Vice Chairman Han Su-kil spoke at the banquet: The treaty on the DPRK-Chinese economic and cultural

cooperation concluded on 23 November 1953 was a historic treaty which was signed for the first time since the DPRK and the PRC were founded. The treaty has opened up a wide way for consolidating and developing the traditional DPRK-Chinese friendship and for bringing into full play mutual cooperation in the economic and cultural fields. He said that the vitality of the treaty has been clearly proven in the process of the socialist construction in the two countries for the past 40 years.

He said that the Chinese people, upholding the tasks put forth in the 14th CPC Congress and in the first session of the Eighth National People's Congress, have effected a great success in constructing socialism with Chinese characteristics. He said that our people have rejoiced over the success that the PRC, our neighbor country, has effected in socialist construction and hope that everything will go well in China.

Next, Ambassador Qiao Zonghuai referred to the treaty on Chinese-DPRK economic and cultural cooperation, which was signed 40 years ago. He said that the treaty has opened up a historic page of economic and cultural cooperation between the two countries. He said that, under the leadership of President Comrade Kim Il-song, Comrade Kim Chong-il, and the Workers Party of Korea, the Korean people have waged a vigorous struggle to construct the Korean-style socialism centered on the popular masses and to achieve the independent and peaceful reunification of the country by implementing the 10-point program of great unity of the whole nation for reunification of the country.

He said that under today's complex international situation, the China and the DPRK should constantly strengthen and develop cooperative relations in economic and cultural relations. He noted that this is very important in promoting socialist construction in two countries and in consolidating the traditional friendship of the peoples of the two countries.

Participants in the banquet toasted to the friendship and solidarity sealed with blood between the DPRK and China, to the long life and good health of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, to the long life and good health of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, and to the long life and good health of Chinese leaders, including respected Comrade Jiang Zemin.

Delegation Returns From Trip to Indonesia

SK2411084393 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1500 GMT 21 Nov 93

[Text] The DPRK delegation led by Yi Chae-yun, minister of labor administration, returned home by train on 21 November after participating in the ministers meeting of nonaligned countries on population held in Indonesia. Kim Ki-chan, vice minister of labor administration, and R. Muhamed Muharam Sumadipraja, Indonesian ambassador to the DPRK, welcomed the delegation at Pyongyang station.

WPK Delegation Ends Visit to Denmark, Ireland

*SK2411023493 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 19 Nov 93*

[Text] The Workers Party of Korea [WPK] delegation led by Yi Yong-su, deputy director of a department of the WPK Central Committee, returned home on 19 November by plane after visiting Denmark and Ireland. (Pak Kyong-son), deputy director of a department of the WPK Central Committee, welcomed the delegation at the airport.

Goods Exhibition Opens in New Delhi 14 Nov

*SK2411100293 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 2300 GMT 22 Nov 93*

[Text] A DPRK goods exhibition taking part in the 13th Indian International Trade Exhibition, opened on 14 November in New Delhi. A portrait of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il standing in front of Mt. Paektu was hung in front of the exhibition place. Immortal works of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il; books and photos showing achievements made by our people in socialist construction under the wise leadership of the party; and our country's goods were exhibited.

Present at the opening ceremony were Indian Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao; the commerce minister; the minister of state for commerce; figures from political, social, and trade circles; heads of delegations of various countries participating in the exhibition; members of the DPRK goods exhibition delegation; DPRK charge d'affaires ad interim to India; and the head of the DPRK trade mission.

The Indian prime minister, commerce minister, minister of state for commerce, and the general director of the exhibition gave speeches at the opening ceremony. After the opening ceremony, the participants looked over the exhibition hall.

Supreme People's Assembly To Convene 9 Dec

*SK2311112493 Pyongyang Korean Central Television
Network in Korean 1104 GMT 23 Nov 93*

["Decision of the Standing Committee of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly" on convening the DPRK SPA released on 23 November in Pyongyang—read by announcer]

[Text] The Standing Committee of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] issues the following decision:

The Sixth Session of the DPRK's Ninth SPA will be convened in Pyongyang on 9 December 1993.

[Signed] DPRK SPA Standing Committee
[Dated] 23 November 1993, Pyongyang

Deputies To Register for Session

*SK2311113793 Pyongyang Korean Central Television
Network in Korean 1105 GMT 23 Nov 93*

["Public notice (kongsu) on convening the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly" released on 23 November in Pyongyang—read by announcer]

[Text] The Standing Committee of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] informs the deputies to the SPA that the Sixth Session of the DPRK Ninth SPA will be convened in Pyongyang on 9 December 1993. The registration of deputies will be made at the Mansudae Assembly Hall on 7-8 December 1993.

[Signed] Standing Committee of the DPRK SPA
[Dated] 23 November 1993, Pyongyang

Kim Chong-il Greets Yanggang Province Enterprises

*SK2411083193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0445
GMT 24 Nov 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, November 24 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il sent thanks to the organs and enterprises in Yanggang Province which set examples in the construction of dwelling houses for discharged soldiers of the Hyesan youth mine.

The Yanggang Provincial committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the provincial people's committee, the provincial administrative and economic committee, the provincial committee of the League of Socialist Working youth and other provincial organs, city and county organs, complexes and organs and enterprises in Hyesan successfully built dwelling houses for 1,500 households of discharged soldiers of the Hyesan youth mine in a short span of time by effecting collective innovations.

Farm Overfulfills Grain Production Goal

*SK2411113093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1021
GMT 24 Nov 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, November 24 (KCNA)—A meeting for year-end account settlement and income distribution was held on the Samsok District Cooperative Farm in Pyongyang on November 22.

The farm fulfilled this year plan for grain production at 118.3 percent, vegetables at 136.4 percent, fruit at 105 percent and meat at 103.3 percent. The farm produced 14.4 tons of maize per hectare on an average.

Cooperative farms across the country held meetings for year-end account settlement and income distribution, elated at having brought in an unprecedentedly rich crop by doing farm on a scientific and technical basis by the chuche method of farming. More than 60 cooperative farms finished year-end account settlement and income distribution in 10 days.

'Talk' Notes Significance of Local Elections

*SK2411043393 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 1132 GMT 22 Nov 93*

[Unattributed "talk:" "The Powerful Demonstration of the Superiority of Socialism of Our Own Style"]

[Text] The elections of deputies to the provincial and municipal people's assemblies have been held successfully amid great interest and surging political enthusiasm of all the people.

Comrade Kim Il-song, the great leader of our party and people, and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il have participated in the elections and warmly encouraged working people who, with an indomitable faith and revolutionary zeal, were vigorously waging the struggle to create a speed in the general onward march of the socialism of our own style.

All the voters, with a high sense of loyalty toward the party and the leader, have participated as one in the elections of deputies to the provincial and municipal people's assemblies to further consolidate the people's regime, a powerful political weapon for the revolution and construction and a true servant of the people, into a more invincible one.

Ninety-nine and nine-tenths percent of all the voters participated and voted 100 percent for the candidates. Such results of the elections powerfully demonstrate the superiority of our country's socialist system in which the people are the masters of sovereignty and the firmness of our revolutionary ranks in which all the people are closely united around the party and the leader. The elections of deputies to provincial and municipal people's assemblies are of great significance in consolidating the people's regime, a powerful weapon for the revolution and construction, and enhancing its role and function.

The dear leader Comrade has noted: Consolidating the people's regime is the road to adhere to, solidify, and develop the socialist system, and herein lies a firm guarantee to successfully advance and complete the independent cause of the popular masses.

Our people's regime is the working popular masses' true regime which has been built and run by the popular masses themselves. From the past, the power of our people's regime has been strongly supported by the broad masses of people, including working people and peasants, and rooted deep among them.

Our people, through the elections, expressed absolute support and trust for the people's regime which provided the true independent rights and ensured the creative life. All of the voters shared the same opinion that there is no fruitful life and happiness without the people's regime. Because there is the people who firmly defend their regime with firm conviction, our chuche-oriented revolutionary sovereignty continues to develop and solidify in whatever circumstances.

The newly elected deputies to provincial and municipal people's assemblies, with high sense of loyalty and filial duty toward the party and the leader, are the ones who have devotedly worked for the fatherland and the people. Local power organs being run by such people will further consolidate the political groundwork for our people's regime. Hence our people's regime will further carry out its role and function brilliantly as the head of a family who is responsible for the people's life and as the true supporter for the popular masses' independent rights.

We, through the elections, also clearly demonstrated our society's great trait of singlehearted unity around the party and the leader. The power of socialism is the power of singlehearted unity. The popular masses-centered socialism of our own style is displaying its superiority amid the imperialists' vicious anti-socialist maneuvers because the revolutionary ranks are firmly united.

Our people are firmly united as a big revolutionary family whose members think and act in conformity with the party's intention. In our society, any sort of unhealthy ideological element which runs against the chuche idea can never set its foot in, and everyone is faithfully upholding the party's leadership with the healthy revolutionary consciousness and revolutionary trait.

The leader, the party, and the masses are firmly united in a single mind. For this reason, whenever elections of power organs at all levels took place in our society, all the people unanimously participated in the elections. Our people, through the elections, once again fully demonstrated their strong will to engage in revolution by following the party under any storm.

As long as there is our singlehearted unity around the party and the leader with a single ideological will, any tasks arising in the struggle to develop and strengthen the socialist construction and the people's regime can be easily carried out. The elections served as an important momentum in powerfully demonstrating the superiority of socialism of our own style which embodied the chuche idea and in effecting upsurges in socialist construction.

The fact that 100 percent of the voters voted for the candidates is an expression of absolute support for socialism of our own style. Nothing can shake our people's faith for socialism of our own style.

The election results fully demonstrated to the world the height of the revolutionary spirit of our people who hold fast to the revolutionary banner of socialism.

Today, the imperialists are viciously maneuvering to crush [apsal] our country which strictly adheres to the principle of socialism. Our people will, as in the past, vigorously advance with firm conviction for the victory of the socialist cause and will effect endless upsurges in the socialist construction. Before us lie formidable tasks of vigorously advancing the chuche socialist cause and further consolidating the revolutionary sovereignty of

working people and peasants to the firmness of a rock. The most important factor in consolidating the people's regime in conformity with the demand of developing realities is for functionaries of all power organs to further uphold the party's leadership.

Our party is the leader [hyangdoja] of the people's regime. The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has been holding fast to, developing, and enriching [pungbuhwa] the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's achievements in the building sector of the people's regime.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il is wisely leading power organs of the people's regime to conduct their duties and responsibilities in accordance with the leader's [suryong] intention.

Functionaries of all power organs must bear in mind that the people's regime can not firmly adhere to its working-class and popular qualities, and carry out its economic-organizational and cultural-educational roles without the party's leadership. In addition, they must endlessly devote themselves to the party's leadership under any circumstances.

Faithfully serving the people is an honorable task of the people's regime. Nothing is more important than becoming servants of the people for functionaries of people's power organs. Upholding the party's slogan "Serving for the people," functionaries of people's power organs should firmly set the ethos of faithfully serving the interests of the people. In particular, they should deeply acknowledge their duty like the head of a family who is in charge of the nation's economy and the people's life would and exert all efforts to fulfill the people's material and cultural demands in conformity with the demand of developing realities.

Effecting new upsurges in the construction of a socialist economy is one of the most important tasks for the people's power organs. The people's power organs should apply the Taean work system more thoroughly, drive the broad segments of the masses to actively participate in economic management, and conduct economic tasks economically and rationally. They should enlist the creative enthusiasm of working people toward the struggle to fulfill the yearly plan, and scrupulously carry out economic organizational work in accordance with the party's intent and working people's high degree of enthusiasm for production.

The entire party members and working people, with high degree of political enthusiasm displayed in the elections, should brilliantly implement the party's plan to effect great upsurges in the socialist construction, and rise as one to fulfill the plan for this year's national economy.

The party's confidence in and the popular masses' expectation for the newly-elected deputies to provincial and municipal people's assemblies are exceptionally high. The deputies to provincial and municipal people's

assemblies should responsibly carry out their assumed duties to repay the party's confidence and the popular masses' expectations.

The entire party members and working people should vigorously struggle for the consolidation and development of the people's regime, and the victory of the chuche socialist cause.

Talk Stresses Unity of Leader, Party, Masses

*SK2111024393 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 0200 GMT 19 Nov 93*

[Unattributed talk: "Single-Hearted Unity Is the Lifeline of Our Revolution"]

[Text] Today, even under the complex situation, our people, full of confidence and with great ambition and optimism of the future, are constantly consolidating and developing the socialism of our own style. Our party and people have sternly smashed every maneuver by the imperialists and reactionaries, vigorously advancing along the road of victory while upholding the banner of chuche, the banner of socialism. This is because the leader, the party, and the masses have been single-heartedly united. The single-hearted unity is the well-spring of the invincible strength of our party and people and the lifeline of our revolution.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has noted: The party's solidarity and unity are the life of the party and a basic guarantee to successfully carry out revolution and construction.

Unity is the revolution and vice versa. The revolution, if we are united, will win a victory; the revolution, if we are divided, will fail. This is the truth that has been proven through history. The most ideal and solid unity, which is life in the working class revolutionary struggle, is single-hearted unity. Single-hearted unity means a socio-political life that the leader, the party, and the masses are firmly united, with the leader as the center of unity under the party's leadership and on the base of the leader's ideological will.

The singleness of the center of single-hearted unity, the complete consistency of ideological will, and the noble spirit of moral obligation are the basic characteristics of single-hearted unity. Thanks to such characteristics, single-hearted unity is the firmest unity that none can break.

The powerful single-hearted unity has been brilliantly realized in our country due to the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il's outstanding and tested leadership. Our proud single-hearted unity is the firmest unity that all the party and the entire people are firmly rallied as a large family, regarding the great leader and the dear leader comrade as the center of unity and based on the immortal chuche.

Why does our single-hearted unity become the lifeline of our revolution? This is, above all, because single-hearted unity firmly binds the main forces of our revolution into a socio-political life. The revolutionary movement is initiated and developed by the operation and role of the main forces of the revolution. When the main forces of the revolution are firm and the revolutionary movement is strengthened, the revolution will win a victory; when the main forces of the revolution are weakened and the revolutionary movement is suspended, the revolution will decline and fail.

The main forces of the revolution are none other than the unity among the leader [suryong], the party, and the masses. With the leader as the center and on the base of the leader's ideology under the party's leadership, the popular masses should be firmly united organizationally, ideologically, morally, and faithfully. Only then can they form the main forces of the revolution, that is, a socio-political life.

The firmest unity method that gets the leader, the party, and the masses to rally as the main forces of the revolution—a socio-political life—is precious single-hearted unity.

People can be united through material interests. People can also be united through the relations of relatives and friends and through the relations based on same villages. However, this unity method cannot turn the popular masses into the main forces of the revolution, that is, a socio-political life, because this unity method is not based on the revolutionary ideology which represents the human beings' independent demands and interests. Worse still, this unity method has not a unitary center for unity. For this reason, this unity cannot be firm, nor can it be motive power for revolutionary struggle.

However, single-hearted unity is the firmest unity, which regards the leader as the center of unity, regards the leader's revolutionary ideology as a unitary ideology, and regards loyalty to the leader as life. Thus, single-hearted unity can turn the popular masses into the main forces of the revolution, that is, a socio-political life.

The solidly-united main forces of the revolution—a socio-political life which shares fate—has invincible might that none can break. For this reason, single-hearted unity becomes not only motive power which strongly presses ahead with the revolutionary struggle, but also the lifeline of our revolution which firmly ensures the victory of the revolutionary struggle.

Another reason why single-hearted unity becomes the lifeline of our revolution is that single-hearted unity firmly safeguards the revolutionary position and principle in revolutionary struggle and construction work.

Defending the revolutionary position and principle in the revolutionary struggle and construction work is to defend and embody the basic demand for independence and the interests of the working class and working

popular masses. The revolutionary position and principle can be steadily maintained and defended only by the strength of single-hearted unity.

Single-hearted unity firmly guarantees the leadership of the party and the leader for revolution and construction. Single-hearted unity constantly enhances the popular masses' position and role. For this reason, single-hearted unity can defend and safeguard the independent demand and interests of the working popular masses.

The leadership of the party and the leader for revolution and construction is the lifeline of revolution and construction. Enhancing the popular masses' position and role is the firm guarantee for the victory of the revolution. Thus, only when the leadership of the party and the leader for revolution and construction is firmly guaranteed and only when the popular masses' position and role are enhanced, can the basic demand for independence and the interests of the popular masses be defended and embodied.

The issue of firmly defending the leadership of the party and the leader for revolution and construction and the issue of defending the revolutionary position and principle to the end by enhancing the popular masses' position and role can be resolved by the single-hearted unity among the leader, the party, and the masses.

The party and the leader that are single-heartedly united with the popular masses can work out a correct line, policy, strategy, and tactics; can vigorously arouse the popular masses to carry out them; and can invariably defend and maintain the revolutionary position and principle in revolution and construction.

The firmest single-hearted unity among the leader, the party, and the masses has been brilliantly realized in our country. The unitary leadership of the party and the leader for revolution and construction has been firmly guaranteed. The popular masses have brought into full play their unfathomable creative strength.

Thus, the principle for independence, which was firmly upheld during the era of pioneering the revolution, has been consistently defended. The chuche revolutionary cause has been advanced victoriously without the slightest deviation. This clearly shows that single-hearted unity is the revolutionary lifeline, which is capable of constantly maintaining the revolutionary position and principle in revolution and construction.

We should further strengthen and consolidate as firm as a rock the single-hearted unity, which is the lifeline of the revolution and which is the banner that we should uphold to the end. By so doing, we should brilliantly complete the socialist cause of our own style to the end.

Commentators Urge Strengthening Dictatorship

SK2411094993 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 0200 GMT 7 Nov 93

[Dialogue between reporters Cho Myong-sik and Song In-ho, entitled "Exercising the People's Democratic Dictatorship Is an Important Function of the People's Regime"]

[Text] [Cho Myong-sik] How are you?

[Song In-ho] How are you?

[Cho] With the approach of the elections of deputies to the provincial and municipal People's Assemblies, our people are now burning with the single mind to further consolidate as firm as a rock our socialist regime which is a genuine people's regime.

[Song] Yes. That is right.

[Cho] I think that this is precisely an expression of our people's endless trust in our people's regime.

[Song] Yes, you are right.

[Cho] That our people's regime has enjoyed firm trust and support from the people like this is, I think, because our people's regime has smoothly enforced the dictatorial function of people's democracy [inmin minjuui tokcheginung] of our people's regime. What do you say?

[Song] Yes, you are right. Our people's regime, by strengthening the dictatorship by people's democracy [inmin minjuui tokche], not only has safeguarded and defended the popular masses' interests from all sorts of maneuvers by the hostile elements, but has also ensured genuine political freedom and rights for the popular masses.

[Cho] So, today let us discuss the question that enforcing the dictatorship by people's democracy is an important function of the people's regime.

[Song] Yes, it is a very important question, I think. The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has indicated: Enforcing the dictatorship by people's democracy is an important function of the people's regime.

One of the important functions of the people's regime is to enforce the dictatorship by people's democracy. This is the major content of the regime-building ideology elucidated by the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il. Generally speaking, dictatorship means that the class, which has seized sovereign rights, suppresses [chinap] the resistance of the class with different interests, on the strength of state power. Dictatorship presupposes a class-oriented character. Since beginning of the history of mankind, there has been no state without the class. Likewise, dictatorship without the class spirit cannot exist.

The dictatorship by the exploiting class is a weapon to subjugate the broad working popular masses and to

suppress their struggle for independence, and the democracy that the exploiting class talks about is a so-called democracy to defend its class interests. To the contrary, the proletarian dictatorship is not only the dictatorship toward the exploiting class, but is a democracy toward the broad popular masses.

[Cho] You are right. The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has elucidated that the democratic dictatorship of our people's regime is not only a most democratic dictatorship which enforces genuine democracy for the popular masses but is also a revolutionary dictatorship which, based on the single-hearted unity of the leader, the party, and the masses, constantly strengthens the unity. The essential characteristics and superiority of the people's democratic dictatorship of our people's regime lie precisely in defending all of our people's interests and in making the popular masses the strong foundation for the revolution.

In the meantime, a question on why we should strengthen the dictatorial function of people's democracy of our people's regime arises today. In a nutshell, it is because we should smash the antisocialist moves by the imperialists and reactionaries and should defend the popular masses' interests and safety. In managing society and carrying out the revolution and construction, the people's regime cannot take the power function, that is, the dictatorship function, as an omnipotent function. However, it should not neglect the power function.

[Song] Yes. That is right.

[Cho] Today, the imperialists and reactionaries are strengthening military, political, and economic pressure against socialist countries and revolutionary countries. In particular, they are directing their spearhead of attack at our country. They are also viciously conducting all sorts of maneuvers for destruction and sabotage. Therefore, to smash their maneuvers and, thus, to guarantee the popular masses' interests and security it is imperative for our people's regime to strengthen its dictatorship function.

[Song] Yes, that is right. Clarifying that enforcing the dictatorship by people's democracy is an important function of the people's regime, the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has elucidated what the people's regime should do in order to strengthen the dictatorship function of people's democracy.

[Cho] Right.

[Song] To strengthen the dictatorship function of people's democracy, first the people's regime should, first of all, thoroughly suppress the maneuvers for destruction and sabotage by the hostile elements. Socialist, communist construction is destined to presuppose the struggle to smash the activities [chundong] by the imperialists and the internal hostile elements [naebuui choktae punjadul] who are in collusion [kyoltak] with them. The hostile elements' maneuvers against socialism are to become more vicious and cunning as the revolution

deepens and develops. Therefore, to safeguard the popular masses' interests it is imperative for the people's regime to sharpen the blade of the dictatorship of people's democracy and to mercilessly chastise all the hostile elements attempting to destroy and overthrow the socialist system. The people's regime should inculcate the broad masses in class-oriented terms and actively mobilize them into the struggle against counterrevolutionaries so as to prevent any class enemies from running wild at random. By doing so, the people's regime should firmly defend revolutionary gains and safeguard and defend the popular masses' interests.

[Cho] You are right. To strengthen the dictatorship of people's democracy, the people's regime should strengthen legal sanctions against those who violate law and order, being tainted by old ideologies, and, thus, should thoroughly do away with an antisocialist phenomena.

The people's regime's enforcement of dictatorship on the forces and elements [seryokkwa yoso] who infringe upon the popular masses' interests is not the infringement upon human rights, but the protection of human rights. Human rights are the sacred rights of social human beings who live independently and creatively and develop. Those who are familiar with genuine human rights are precisely the popular masses.

The imperialists and reactionaries are denouncing the socialist regime's exercise of power upon the hostile elements of the socialist regime, branding it as the infringement of human rights. This is a foolish commotion. Our people's regime should further strengthen the dictatorship by people's democracy as the revolutionary weapon to defend the independence of the popular masses. By so doing, the people's regime should more properly serve the popular masses.

A few days are left before the elections of deputies to provincial and municipal people's assemblies. We should all participate in the elections and unanimously vote for deputy candidates so that we can further consolidate as firm as a rock our socialist regime and should further glorify the most superior socialism of our own style.

South Korea

Further on Kim Yong-sam's Visit to Washington

Speech at American University

SK2411075593 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
24 Nov 93 p 2

["Text" of speech by President Kim Yong-sam in accepting the Averell Harriman Democracy Award at the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs in Washington, D.C. on 22 November]

[Text] First of all, I would like to pay the highest tribute to the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs for its tireless endeavors to promote democratic development.

It is a great honor and privilege for me to be awarded the Averell Harriman democracy Award today. I am somewhat embarrassed by this when there are so many other deserving people who have been devoting themselves to the cause of democracy around the world. I do, however, accept the prize together with and on behalf of the Korean people, because Korean democracy is the crystallization of their blood and sweat.

I pay humble respects to my fellow Koreans who gave their lives in the fight for democracy over the past four decades. I wish to share my joy with all my fellow crusaders who have given their all to the cause of democracy and human rights in the Republic of Korea.

I was born in 1928 in a coastal village overlooking the Pacific Ocean at a time when Japan was tightening its colonial rule of Korea. While growing up as a son of an oppressed nation, I began to cherish a yearning for freedom and democracy which I understood were flourishing in countries like America.

When Korea was liberated from the yoke of colonial rule in 1945, our people had a rising hope that our country would also be able to establish a democracy like America had done. Those days, we often sang:

The dark night has been long and painful.
But dawn is now breaking on our rivers and mountains.
My friends, jump out of bed and listen!
From beyond the mountains, the seas and the Pacific,
Oh, the Bell of Liberty is tolling louder and louder.

As this song implied, America had made a deep impression on our minds as the land of freedom and democracy across the Pacific. The trials of the Korean people did not end with liberation, however, as our land was partitioned into South and North. Our people were divided against themselves. We were then ravaged by the fratricidal Korean War.

When the war was coming to an end, I plunged into the world of politics with an aspiration to serve the cause of Korean democracy. In the nearly 40 years since, I have always fought for democracy on the side of our people.

In the course of this crusade, I narrowly escaped a terrorist attack. At one point, a dictatorial regime threw me out of the National assembly, although the people had put me there. I was placed under house arrest for a total of three years. During those days, I went on a 23-day hunger strike, risking my life.

The 30-year quest for democracy has borne fruit. We are in the process of wiping out the negative legacies of the past military-influenced authoritarian rule—especially the misconduct and corruption that have accumulated over such a long time.

Freedom and human rights are now guaranteed. Private initiative is respected and political and cultural pluralism is flourishing. Reforms are being carried out to promote social justice. On the strength of the economic growth attained thus far, we are marching out into the world and into the future. In this way, we are constructing a New Korea.

All the same, the Korean people and I still have a dream to fulfill. It is a dream of making our land and people one again—a dream of extending Korean democracy throughout the whole Korean peninsula.

World history is now unfolding in a direction favorable to national reconciliation and unification in Korea. Our people and I are striving ever hard to achieve those goals. We truly desire to reconcile and cooperate with North Korea in order to promote common prosperity. We wish to share democratic values with them.

And yet, suspicions that the North is developing nuclear weapons stand in the way of realizing our dream and hope, holding back the new current of history from the Korean peninsula.

North Korea should promptly dispel our doubts over their nuclear intentions in the interest of peace in Northeast Asia and in the world at large, thus ensuring the survival of the 70 million Korean people. We sincerely hope that they will not turn their back on the yearning and dream of my 70 million fellow Koreans to enjoy democracy, human rights and freedom.

The Korean people and I will persevere in the endeavors to thaw the frozen land that is North Korea and to bring democracy to flower there. I ardently hope that you will continue to support our efforts to realize our hope and dream and pray for our success.

The last dream that I share with my fellow citizens is this: A unified Korean people making a creative contribution to the peace and prosperity of the world.

The Asia-Pacific region is the most dynamic and hope-fraught area of the world. The axis of a new civilization is shifting toward this region. I can vividly sense this. My view is that together with the United States, Japan and China, a unified Korea will be able to play a pivotal role in the Asia Pacific age.

The Korean people have a rich cultural tradition stretching uninterrupted for nearly five millennia. We hope to repay the rest of the world to the best of our ability for what it has given us. A major objective of the change and reform that the Korean people and I are now pursuing is to contribute to the betterment of mankind in this changing world.

We must keep in mind, however, that a new world and the Asia-Pacific age that we are trying to build together must be founded on democratic values—values that must be spread and shared by all peoples. Freedom and democracy must be both the starting line and the goal for the new world.

The Republic of Korea and the United States of America are already allies in the shared values of democracy. The solid cooperative ties between our two countries, I believe, will be crucial to creating a new global community.

When I looked out at the Pacific from the seashore while a young boy, I dreamed of democracy. The dream of the Korean people to march out into the wide world and into the future on the strength of democracy is also the dream of all mankind.

Today happens to be the 30th anniversary of the violent death of president John F. Kennedy whom I hold in high respect. I feel this makes my receiving the Averell Harriman Democracy Award doubly meaningful. I visited the Arlington National Cemetery earlier this morning to pay my respects to the unknown soldiers who gave their lives during the Korean war and then to visit president Kennedy's tomb. Let us recall what he said to the friends of America: "Ask not what America will do for you, but what together we can do for the freedom of man."

In that spirit let us charge ahead together to realize the dream of all—an even better democracy and even greater freedom tomorrow.

Clinton, Kim Hold 'Harmonious' Talks

*SK2411032593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0257 GMT
24 Nov 93*

[Text] Washington, Nov. 23 (YONHAP)—The summit and expanded summit began at 11:10 AM Tuesday [1610 GMT] and lasted 115 minutes, over-running the scheduled 65 minutes as South Korean President Kim Yong-sam and U.S. President Bill Clinton did some serious talking. The summit ran for about one and half hours instead of 35 minutes, and the expanded summit had to be cut to 25 minutes from the scheduled 30 minutes.

Kim was accompanied by Senior Secretary for Foreign and National Security Affairs Chong Chong-uk and Chang Chae-ryong, director-general for American Affairs of the Foreign Ministry.

Clinton was flanked by Vice President Al Gore, Secretary of State Warren Christopher and National Security Adviser Anthony Lake.

Chong said that the presidents discussed pending issues in a harmonious and serious atmosphere, including the North Korean nuclear problem, in the Oval Office of the White House.

It was their third meeting. The first was a summit in Seoul in July and the second was at last week's summit of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) in Seattle.

They were frank and open, like old friends, Chong said.

At the beginning of the meeting, he said, Kim spoke positively of the APEC summit and told Clinton, "I was impressed by the excellent leadership that the U.S. Government and President Clinton showed in leading the APEC summit to a success."

Chong said Clinton replied that Kim had played a leading role for the success of the APEC summit and proposed that South Korea and the United States together play a leading role in the process of APEC's strengthening economic cooperation of the Asia-Pacific region.

Kim gave Clinton a detailed explanation of his discussion with Chinese President Jiang Zemin, and Clinton thanked Kim for playing an active role for the improvement of Sino-American relations.

After the summit, the presidents moved to the cabinet room for the expanded summit and spent the next 25 minutes discussing ways to promote bilateral economic cooperation.

On the Korean side, they were joined there by Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu, Ambassador Han Sung-su, Chief Presidential Secretary Pak Kwan-yong, Senior Secretary for Economic Affairs Pak Chae-yun, Chairman of Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Yi Yang-ho, and Senior Press Secretary Yi Kyong-chae.

On the U.S. side were Defense Secretary Les Aspin, Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs Winston Lord and Ambassador to South Korea James Laney.

Further on Summit Talks

SK2411054993 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 24 Nov 93 p 1

[By KOREA HERALD correspondent Kim Chong-chan]

[Text] WASHINGTON—President Kim Yong-sam and U.S. President Bill Clinton, sharing a "sense of urgency" about the North Korean nuclear problem, renewed their efforts to resolve the issue as quickly as possible, a senior aide to Kim said.

During their talks at the White House Tuesday morning, the two Presidents agreed that North Korea should immediately accept outside inspections of its suspected nuclear weapons production facilities and that it resume talks with South Korea on the exchange of special envoys, he said.

President Clinton reaffirmed that Washington will hold further talks with Pyongyang only when there is a progress with regard to the two preconditions, the aide said. He also pledged Washington's continuous commitment to the security of South Korea, saying that the United States will not withdraw any more of its troops from South Korea until the North Korean nuclear issue is settled, he said.

Kim and Clinton stressed the need for their countries to maintain a firm stand to persuade Pyongyang to abandon its nuclear weapons development program, the aide said.

The two Presidents also discussed the possibility of taking punitive actions against the Communist North in case the nuclear issue is not solved through dialogue, the aide said. But he said Kim and Clinton still agreed to continue dialogue with North Korea in the hope of a peaceful solution.

South Korean officials who are accompanying Kim said the United States and South Korea remain unchanged in their basic position that the third round of U.S.-North Korea talks can be held only when the North accepts outside inspections and agrees to exchange presidential envoys with the South.

The officials rejected the possibility that Seoul and Washington would accept Pyongyang's proposal for a "package solution" of simultaneous compromises or a "comprehensive solution."

"It is not the time to discuss such methods," said one official, adding that what is of importance at the moment is that Pyongyang submit to outside inspections and resume inter-Korean talks.

The official also denied a report that Seoul and Washington may announce the cancellation of the annual South Korea-U.S. military exercise, Team Spirit, in exchange for North Korea's acceptance of outside inspections. He said the United States and South Korea share a sense of urgency in solving the North Korean nuclear problem though he did not mention a specific deadline.

If the negotiations produce few results, the two countries will promptly refer the matter to the U.N. Security Council, the official said.

During the summit talks, the second after their respective inauguration early this year, Kim and Clinton also vowed to continue to closely cooperate to ensure peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula, the aide of Kim further said.

Clinton repeated his support for South Korea's policy of unifying the Korean Peninsula peacefully and promised that his country will continuously extend cooperation and support for the national unification of Korea, he said.

The two Presidents expressed satisfaction with the successful operation of the Dialogue for Economic Cooperation (DEC) between their countries, that was formed under their agreement in July, the aide said. They hoped that the two countries will work out mid- and long-term ways to develop mutually beneficial relations through the body, he said.

On other economic and trade issues, Kim and Clinton agreed that their bilateral trade is in a generally balanced

condition and that they will try to strengthen cooperation in trade, industry and science-technology fields.

Kim explained to Clinton his new economic policy pursuing deregulation and openness, the aide said. The two heads of state, on regional issues, agreed to play a leading role in forming a community of Asia-Pacific economies, he said. They also discussed the burgeoning regional security talks in the Asia-Pacific and U.S.-Chinese relations, the aide said.

Kim offered to work for smoother relations between Washington and Beijing, saying that Western support for reforms in China will positively contribute to peace and stability in the Northeast Asian region, he said. Kim also promised to extend aid worth \$14 million to the redevelopment programs for the Palestinians and praised Clinton's efforts for bringing peace to the Middle East, the aide said.

Clinton, on his part, praised South Korea's participation in U.N. peace-keeping operations, he said.

The Kim-Clinton talks started at 11 a.m., one hour later than the original schedule, and lasted for about an hour.

The U.S. president will hold a state dinner for Kim at the White House in the evening (Wednesday morning, KST).

Kim arrived here Sunday for a four-day official visit from Seattle, where he attended a summit of Asia-Pacific countries. It is Kim's first overseas trip since his inauguration in February.

On Monday, Kim received the W. Averell Harriman Democracy Award for his "vital" role in leading the Republic of Korea's transition to a democratic government in a ceremony at the Washington Hilton Hotel.

DPRK Nuclear Issue Discussed

SK2411060093 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
24 Nov 93 p 2

[By KOREA TIMES correspondent Kim Sung-pok]

[Text] WASHINGTON—As the nuclear crisis continues to build on the Korean peninsula and U.S. nuclear strategy seems to oscillate between dovish and hawkish, President Kim Yong-sam has won the heart of the U.S. leader in the White House to his own strategy—a demand for simultaneous inspections by South and North Korea at each other's suspected nuclear facilities.

Kim's position put forth in his Tuesday (early Wednesday KST) summit talks with U.S. President Bill Clinton was not a novelty but a return to the starting point from where the two Koreas agreed to tackle the nuclear issue in the 1992 inter-Korean agreement to make the peninsula nuclear free.

Kim's strategy will be used as the main negotiating chip in U.S.-North Korea contacts in days to come.

To those who advocate "soft" nuclear solution in policy-making circles of the United States and, surely, in North Korea, Kim may seem to be being tough with the North. But South Koreans and their leaders, as they have learned from their experiences, believe that one carrot for North Korea will make the communist regime ask for more carrots and a "carrot-only policy" will get nowhere in efforts to solve the nuclear problem.

A senior government official who spoke on the condition of anonymity said, "The reported move by the U.S. to offer an incentive deal to North Korea without its opening of nuclear facilities really makes people in South Korea nervous."

He was referring to the report that Washington will propose the cancellation of the South Korea-U.S. joint military exercise Team Spirit as "bait" [as published] to have North Korea drop its nuclear arms development program.

President Kim's scheme is also aimed at taking the initiative in tackling the thorny issue in an apparent wariness of the seemingly inconsistent U.S. nuclear policy.

A ranking Chongwadae official travelling with Kim said, "In recent days, as a matter of fact, the nuclear strategy in the United States have seemed really confusing. Even back home, there have been some different views."

"The Kim-Clinton talks are significant in that they have tuned their positions in very clear language, sweeping away all confusing reports," he added.

In their summit, Kim and Clinton made it clear that the two preconditions—the International Atomic Energy Agency inspections and inter-Korean exchange of special envoys—are a must for the resumption of the stalled U.S.-North Korea high-level talks.

Their reaffirmation of the earlier position can be construed as a clear refusal of North Korea's proposal in early November for a "package deal" under which it would win a diplomatic relationship with Washington, U.S. assistance for the replacement of its nuclear reactor with a light water one and aid to save its collapsing economy in return for its opening of nuclear facilities to international inspections.

They also clearly defined the meaning of the U.S. expression of "comprehensive solution" as an "across-the-board and complete" solution rather than a sort of compromise on the North Korean nuclear issue, according to Chong Chong-uk, senior presidential secretary for foreign and national security affairs.

Taking into consideration the two preconditions that Seoul and Washington are holding on to, discussion of a comprehensive solution is not likely to take place before the preconditions are met by North Korea.

On top of this, Kim and Clinton also mapped out countermeasures in case North Korea turns a deaf ear to

the international demand to accept IAEA inspections and inter-Korean simultaneous inspections, according to Chong.

Chong did not elaborate but hinted at possible action by the United Nations, which had been regarded as the last card.

Both leaders also exchanged views on ways of seeking help from China, leverage effective in persuading the North as China is the biggest supplier of oil to North Korea.

As shown in the Kim-Clinton talks in White House, North Korea cannot make any deal with the United States, to which South Korea is not a party. This is a message which the Kim-Clinton summit is leaving.

Economic Cooperation Considered

SK2411000593 Seoul YONHAP in English 2327 GMT 23 Nov 93

[Text] Washington, Nov. 24 (YONHAP)—The United States, claiming that South Korea's moves to open its financial market and service industry are insufficient so far, has demanded that Seoul step up its efforts as soon as possible.

Presidents Kim Yong-sam of Korea and Bill Clinton of the United States, in their summit meeting at the White House, agreed Tuesday to strengthen economic cooperation based on balanced trade between the two countries. But the U.S. side stressed its basic position that the Korean Government should try to deepen bilateral economic relations through an open and independent policy.

In this connection, Chief Presidential Secretary for Economic Affairs Pak Chae-yun said prior to the summit that in the economic field the "DES (Dialogue for Economic Cooperation), which was formed during a visit to Korea by President Clinton in July, is being operated successfully."

The two leaders, at Tuesday's meeting, would share the opinion that their nations should continue to strengthen their cooperation on that basis, Pak said. But the United States was expected to launch an offensive, putting pressure on Seoul to open the financial and service industries, Pak said.

The U.S. side was also expected to raise the question of South Korea allowing American businessmen to purchase plots of land in Korea, Pak said.

President Kim, for his part, would explain to Clinton that his administration is pushing a new economic policy characterized by an open and independent posture, Pak said.

Kim would also point out to Clinton that although he welcomes the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), it should not become an exclusive trade bloc, Pak said.

Clinton Urges Rice Market Opening

SK2411025993 Seoul YONHAP in English 0241 GMT 24 Nov 93

[Text] Washington, Nov. 23 (YONHAP)—U.S. President Bill Clinton, in his summit meeting with South Korean President Kim Yong-sam, "very strongly" demanded Tuesday that South Korea allow imports of farm products through tariffication, the White House said. The United States has been demanding the tariffication of farm products whenever it demanded the opening of South Korea's market for imported rice.

A White House official, briefing the press on the results of the Seoul-Washington summit, said that Clinton had "strongly urged" South Korea to change its policy in order to help the Uruguay Round negotiations reach a successful conclusion.

Clinton also urged South Korea to show its efforts to open its financial market and service industry to foreign investors as well as begin the tariffication of industrial products, he said. In addition, Clinton stressed that much more progress has to be made in the dialogue for economic cooperation (DEC), formed when he visited South Korea in July, the official said.

Meeting with Korean reporters after the summit, President Kim was asked whether he and Clinton had discussed the rice issue.

"It is important to deal with this problem harmoniously since the situation in every country is different," Kim said. "(The rice question) has to be discussed comprehensively," he said.

Kim's Statement at News Conference

SK2411055593 Seoul KBS-1 Television Network in Korean 2112 GMT 23 Nov 93

[Remarks by President Kim Yong-sam during a joint Kim-Clinton news conference with U.S. and foreign reporters held at the White House in Washington on 23 November—recorded]

[Text] How are you? First, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to President Clinton for his warm hospitality. Meeting him for the third time—in Washington today, after our meeting in Seattle, and after his visit to Seoul last July—I am glad and feel as though I was meeting an old friend. I will only add a few things because President Clinton just gave a detailed explanation of today's talks.

First, President Clinton strongly reaffirmed the solid and unchanging U.S. defense commitment to the security of the ROK. He also made it clear that there will be no reduction of U.S. forces in the ROK before the North Korean nuclear issue is resolved. The two of us agreed to cooperate closely and continuously to maintain peace on the Korean peninsula and to promote regional stability.

I welcome and support President Clinton's policy that the United States will maintain the forward deployment strategy [chonjin paechi chollyak] in the Asia-Pacific region, including the Korean peninsula.

The two of us agreed that the resolution of the North Korean issue, which seriously threatens not only the security of the ROK but also the international system of nonproliferation of nuclear weapons, should not be delayed any longer. In light of the grave concern of the international community over the North Korean nuclear issue, the two of us agreed to make all thorough and extensive efforts for the ultimate resolution of this issue. The two of us appraised [pyongkka] the close cooperation between our countries in connection with this issue, and agreed to cooperate more closely in the future as well.

President Clinton and I appraised that the Dialogue for Economic Cooperation, which we founded during the ROK-U.S. summit talks last July, has been in successful operation. We look forward to the formulation of a medium- and long-term mutually beneficial cooperation plan through this organization.

I stressed that the ROK's new economic policy—which advocates openness and voluntary initiative—makes internationalization its major strategy and objective, and explained to President Clinton that this policy will further expand our cooperative bilateral economic relations.

I congratulated President Clinton on the success of the economic conference of the Asia-Pacific leaders held in Seattle last week, and highly appraised President Clinton's leadership, which made the conference a success. The two of us agreed that the conference will become an important landmark heralding the arrival of the era of Asia-Pacific cooperation. The two of us agreed to cooperate closely for the creation of a new Pacific community based on the activation of the APEC [Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation] henceforth.

I am very pleased with the result of the talks we held today. I believe the talks will be an important turning point for the beginning of a new level of ROK-U.S. partnership relations. Finally, I again thank President Clinton for his warm hospitality and the close friendship he accorded me and my entourage. Thank you.

23 Nov Joint News Conference

SK2411073993 Seoul KBS-1 Television Network in Korean 2116 GMT 23 Nov 93

[Joint news conference held by President Bill Clinton and President Kim Yong-sam with reporters at the White House in Washington D.C. on 23 November following ROK-U.S. summit talks—recorded, in English except for answers given by President Kim in Korean]

[Text] [Unidentified reporter] Mr. President, you have spoken of a new approach to get North Korea to open up

its nuclear program for inspection. Did the two of you agree today on a new approach and does that represent any relaxation on the U.S. stand? And if so, why would the, wouldn't that be rewarding North Korea for its intransigence?

[Clinton] We did not agree to relax anything. What we agreed was that, the two of us, based on our own security needs, to reexamine what our policies are, if the North Koreans are willing to allow the IAEA [International Atomic Energy Agency] inspectors, and to resume serious dialogue with the ROK; that we needed to make it clear that all of our security decisions should be made in the light of that context. I don't consider that weakening our position or changing or rewarding aggression. In fact, what we want to do is to diminish military tensions in the area. That has to begin by the willingness on the part of North Korea to allow the inspections and to resume the dialogue.

[Unidentified reporter] It definitely sounds like you two are in sync on what to do about North Korea. So also, do you think that North Korea will accept our approach of more concessions?

[Clinton] We are asking them to make two concessions that they already committed to do. And we are committing that then, the two of us will reexamine our security approach in light of that. But we are not divided at all. We reached agreement. We indeed have reconciled the precise language that would be used by each of us in this statement today, so there is no division between the two countries and our positions.

[Unidentified reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Clinton] That is something that would have to be decided by both of us at a later date depending on what would be done or not done by North Korea. We made no decision on that, and no commitment on that. And we couldn't, now.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr. President, I have two questions, one for President Kim, and one for President Clinton. President Kim, it might be a little general question, however, you have denied several times the concept of the absorption unification? [as heard]

And the question for Mr. Clinton is that, North Korea has managed [as heard] a lot to wage a war if UN sanctions will be imposed on North Korea. And also one report, actually a NEWSWEEK report recently, quoting Pentagon classified material that the ROK and the United States would lose if a war broke out again on the peninsula.

[Kim Yong-sam] I will answer first. The ROK absolutely has no intention to achieve reunification through absorption as West Germany did with East Germany. I asked PRC President Jiang Zemin to clearly convey this message to North Korea during my recent meeting with him. Because this is what North Korea worries about most, I asked him to convey to North Korea that we

definitely do not have such an intention. President Jiang Zemin also promised to convey the message.

Of course, no one knows how North Korea will change in the future. As for the possibility of North Korea waging a war, North Korea is reported to have very strong troops, but that is to the contrary. Our ROK Armed Forces are strong [kangnyok]. There are no longer those soldiers who were engaged in politics under the military government. Therefore, the ROK Armed Forces are composed of soldiers who can concentrate on combat, and the ROK and the United States are capable of firmly coping with [taeung] the enemy as one under any circumstances. As President Clinton has just mentioned, the U.S. commitment to ROK's security is firm.

When he visited the ROK in July, President Clinton firmly stated that the United States will not withdraw its forces from the ROK as long as the ROK people do not want it. It is still effective, and I understand that he has repeated this to you today. Therefore, you can believe that we are strong.

[Clinton] With regard to the questions you asked me, let me say that neither President Kim nor I are eager to go to the United Nations and ask for sanctions against North Korea. We have discussed with the leaders of Japan and China in the recent APEC [Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation] meeting the fact that this is not a particularly attractive option.

We have offered, as clearly as we could, to North Korea, the opportunity to reassess our relationships at least in terms of our security requirements, if they will simply follow their own commitments and honor them, on the IAEA inspections, and on resuming the dialogue with the ROK.

Now, as to your second question, I can only reiterate what I said when I was in Korea, I know of no one who seriously believes that the United States and the ROK would be defeated in a war of aggression by North Korea, if they were to attack. And I made it as clear as I could that, if they were to do that, they would pay a price so great that the nation would probably not survive as it is known today.

[Unidentified reporter] The IAEA has suggested that there is a time sensitivity to going back into North Korea in inspecting the two nuclear facilities, a month or two months maximum. After that, they couldn't guarantee that North Korea was in fact abandoning some sort of nuclear weapons program. Is that in fact the case? Is there a month or two that you have now in order to resolve this issue? And a question to President Kim, do you support this notion that if the North Koreans do accept some sort of inspection and resume a dialogue with you, that the United States and South Korea should cancel the joint military exercises, Team Spirit, next year?

[Clinton] First of all, there is some time sensitivity to this based on what we hear from the IAEA inspectors. And

that is the reason we are coming forward now and trying to make another good faith effort to reach out and reason with North Korea.

[Kim] In reference to the nuclear inspection issue, President Clinton and I have agreed that the North-South exchange inspection [nambuk kyohwan sachal] is very important. The North Korean position is that the inter-Korean exchange of special envoys is necessary only for the summit talks, but, our position is that even more important than that is to correctly conduct the nuclear inspection of the North and South. The time for the IAEA's inspection is not unlimited. There should be a limit. There are many reports that the Team Spirit exercise will be immediately suspended if something is done. I assure you that this is a matter having no bearing at all on that, for the present. Concerning all these issues, however, the United States and the ROK will make any decision through a close consultation.

[Unidentified reporter] I have a question, I am addressing the question to President Kim. You said that you cannot wait indefinitely. When is the limit in time? How are you going to decide that is the limit? For President Clinton, you say thorough and broad approaches you will apply and in Seattle, during your press conference, you used the term comprehensive approach. Comprehensive approach, is it the same term that North Koreans are talking about with regard to nuclear issues and other issues involved? And there is any difference between [words indistinct].

[Kim] About my remark: We cannot wait indefinitely. I think it is not proper for me to tell you the possible precise deadline, because there is a possibility of you writing the article on it too liberally, as you please. There are many instances of the press distorting the meaning on the so-called package deal or comprehensive solution. Therefore, we have modified the expression into all thorough extensive efforts for the ultimate solution, so that the contents of the expression have in fact been changed. I hope you will bear it in mind.

Kim Briefs Korean Reporters

SK2411015293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0133 GMT
24 Nov 93

[Text] Washington, Nov. 23 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam said Tuesday that he and U.S. President Bill Clinton have agreed to leave the decision to South Korea on whether to suspend the joint Korea-U.S. military exercise "Team Spirit" for next year.

"Regarding the Team Spirit exercise, South Korea and the United States will coordinate closely, but (I) and President Clinton agreed that the South Korean Government will make the final decision on it," Kim said.

President Kim disclosed the agreement to Korean reporters at the Capitol Hilton Hotel on Tuesday afternoon, following his summit with Clinton. News media reports on a declaration on the suspension of Team

Spirit have been inaccurate, Kim said. The U.S. agreement to leave the decision on Team Spirit to the South Korean Government "is a big change," Kim added.

One of the president's aides elaborated that the final decision on the exercise will be made through negotiations between Washington and Seoul. The United States will not, however, one-sidedly make a final decision to suspend Team Spirit if South Korea opposes it, he said. Kim said that he had managed to settle many issues, including the North Korean nuclear question, at the summit.

"And there is nothing more to discuss as far as the North Korean nuclear issue is concerned," the president stressed.

Kim said he and Clinton shared the opinion that, in order to resolve the North Korean nuclear problem, simultaneous inspections between the South and North should be carried out. The two sides have also agreed that they will completely cooperate in security problems, he said.

Assessing the results of his official visit to the United States and his first foray into diplomacy, Kim said he felt that the status of South Korea was definitely enhanced in the world, and that the Korean people should be proud of themselves and continue to strengthen their competitive power.

As for the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), Kim said it brought a big change to world history and there will be a lot more changes before next year's APEC summit in Jakarta.

Speaks at White House State Dinner

*SK2411014193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0117 GMT
24 Nov 93*

[Text] Washington, Nov. 23 (YONHAP)—South Korean President Kim Yong-sam said Tuesday that his country hopes the United States remains a world leader and forges an "exemplary" partnership with Seoul.

"...I would like to reaffirm here that our people fervently hope that the United States of America will remain a world leader and our powerful ally," Kim said in an address at a White House dinner hosted by U.S. President Bill Clinton.

"It is my firm conviction that as we both treasure the common values and systems of liberal democracy and market economics, our two peoples will be able to build an exemplary partnership," he said.

Kim and Clinton met earlier in a summit that focused chiefly on the North Korean nuclear issue. The two leaders agreed that North Korea must allow international nuclear inspections and resume inter-Korean dialogue before they will consider any change in their security policy.

It was the second meeting between the two presidents. Clinton visited Seoul in July and Kim flew into Washington following the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit.

"The APEC leaders economic meeting held in Seattle last week was a very timely and important event for the many countries of the Asia-Pacific region, which is emerging as the global economic center," he said. "I believe that it signalled the quiet but certain opening of the Asia-Pacific age."

Foreign Minister on 'Package Deal'

*SK2411025093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0237 GMT
24 Nov 93*

[Text] Washington, Nov. 23 (YONHAP)—North Korea's obligations regarding international inspection of its nuclear facilities are not subject to negotiation and cannot be part of a package deal, South Korean Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu said Tuesday.

Referring the North Korean nuclear issue to the U.N. Security Council is possible even if the Stalinist state accepts routine inspections unless it also accepts special inspection of other suspected sites, he said.

"There is no package deal," Han told reporters after the Seoul-Washington summit earlier in the day. "North Korea's obligations to nuclear inspection cannot become a subject of negotiation."

Seoul does not want to take the issue to the Security Council, but will have no choice if North Korea either refuses International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) ad hoc and routine inspections, or allows these inspections but refuses special inspections of sites believed to hide nuclear materials, he said.

Asked if inspectors other than from the IAEA, such as a joint team of experts from South Korea, China and the United States, could conduct the nuclear checks on North Korea, Han said that such idea has never been reviewed.

"It's strictly the IAEA who has to do the inspections," he answered.

"There is absolutely no change in South Korea-U.S. basic positions in dealing with North Korea's nuclear issue," Han said, denying reports that Seoul and Washington are at odds over a U.S. proposal for a "new approach" to the nuclear problem.

Minister Terms Visit 'Success'

*SK2411002793 Seoul YONHAP in English 2342 GMT
23 Nov 93*

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 24 (YONHAP)—Information Minister O In-hwan, proclaiming President Kim Yong-sam's visit to the United States a diplomatic success, said Wednesday that the government now has an international image appropriate for its public support.

"We have indeed initiated a fullfledged challenge to fight for international competitiveness," O told a breakfast seminar in a downtown hotel. He summed up Kim's U.S. visit as "propelling the reforms that found a basis and were substantiated in Korea through institutionalization" to provide a diplomatic breakthrough abroad.

"We have reached the stage to concentrate all national forces to build an advanced Korea for the 21st century with reform," he said, saying that it was now the public's turn to lead the reform drive started by the president.

The government spokesman said consistency, action and civil-led were the characteristics of Kim's reforms and that consistency was the "life" of the reforms considering the long journey to results.

He invited the government, industry and the public to each make a creative challenge to actualize the reforms, and said politics must be more productive, and relations between government and industry must be less cozy.

The prospects of the reforms are bright if all businessmen and intellectuals strive with eagerness and creativity to raise the country's competitiveness, O said, adding that success is in the hands of the public, who can volunteer to complete the reforms or not.

YONHAP Analyzes Summit Results

SK2411001393 Seoul YONHAP in English 2303 GMT
23 Nov 93

[By Yi Tong-min]

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 24 (YONHAP)—South Korea and the United States presented North Korea with a timely united front in their summit on Wednesday to deny that they are out of sync in dealing with the nuclear issue.

Presidents Kim Yong-sam and Bill Clinton repeated the same message—North Korea must allow International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) inspections and engage in dialogue with South Korea. Only then will the two countries re-examine their policy based on the changed security situation. They repeated that although they seek to finally solve the problem, neither of them are eager to ask for U.N. sanctions on North Korea nor set a deadline.

Visibly toned down were hints of what Clinton himself two days ago had called "a new approach" to the North Korean nuclear problem. He had said he hoped to announce this new approach after meeting with Kim.

South Korea's aim in going into the summit was to reaffirm the basic stance that it is North Korea that has to make the first concessions. It wasn't ready for any announcements that the United States was willing to make even a simultaneous compromise with North Korea. This point was delivered and agreed to at the summit.

Concerns in South Korea were that the United States is moving too quickly and that North Korea may come to believe it can strike a package deal, exchanging its nuclear inspections with relations improvement with the United States. While Pyongyang negotiated directly with Washington, Seoul would be left by the sidelines.

The verbal tone at the post-summit press conference reflected efforts to allay these concerns.

"We have not relaxed anything," and Seoul and Washington "are not divided at all," Clinton said.

Hesitant to suggest any comprehensive deal with North Korea, Clinton drew only a vague picture of what North Korea would get in return for clearing its nuclear problem.

"If it (North Korea) abandons its nuclear option and honors its international non-proliferation commitments, the door will be open on a wide range of issues not only with the United States but with the rest of the world," he said.

Kim, too, stressed there are no forthcoming carrots for Pyongyang.

"Team Spirit and North Korea's nuclear problem are totally unrelated," he said, belittling speculations that Seoul and Washington are ready to cancel their annual joint military exercise. He stressed Clinton's promise of "unyielding commitment" to the security of South Korea.

The two presidents were unified on the broad principles of solving the North Korean nuclear problem, but the differences were in points of emphasis. While Seoul emphasized what North Korea has to do first, Washington emphasized how North Korea will be rewarded when it complies with the demands. But one point was clear throughout—it is Pyongyang that has to make the first move.

Kim and Clinton may not have said anything new, but to have them meet and confirm this point will be a psychological boost for Seoul and firm message for Pyongyang.

YONHAP Reviews U.S. Visit

SK2411020493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0146 GMT
24 Nov 93

[By Kim Song-su and Song Hyon-sung]

[Text] Washington, Nov. 23 (YONHAP)—South Korean President Kim Yong-sam reaped unexpectedly good results in his debut on the stage of international diplomacy, leaving his country's print on Asia-Pacific and Seoul-Washington relations.

Kim's U.S. trip began Nov. 17 and went beyond domestic politics and reform, which have dominated his presidency since February, to open a new range of possibilities. He held consecutive summits with the leaders of China, Australia and Canada while attending

the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) leaders meeting in Seattle, presenting them with the new image of a South Korea dedicated to openness. His message was one of commitment to free trade, a market economy, outward-looking policies and coprosperity for the nations of the Asia-Pacific region. He portrayed Seoul as a valuable mediator, offering to become a bridge between advanced nations and members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

It was actually the first time that the South Korean president has held a series of bilateral summits during an international conference. This, Kim's aides say, is a welcome change from past diplomatic practices, which concentrated on Japan and the United States.

Compared to the symbolic results at APEC, the South Korea-U.S. summit in Washington on Tuesday had an immediate impact on South Korean security issues. Contradicting reports of U.S. readiness with concessions for North Korea, the two presidents reaffirmed their basic positions that North Korea must accept International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) inspections to guarantee continuity in safeguards and a complete exchange of presidential envoys with South Korea. They agreed that these two conditions have to be sufficiently met before the United States will agree to further high-level talks with North Korea.

The summit opened as the two countries were in confusion about North Korea's proposal for a package deal on the nuclear issue, but the two presidents came out of the summit with an agreement on "thorough and broad" efforts to solve the problem. In light of the different proposals and recommendations within the two governments, clear-cut statements by the presidents certainly carry a heavy weight.

The U.S. trip provided another crucial opportunity, a chance to discuss the North Korean situation with Chinese leader Jiang Zemin during the APEC summit.

Kim made sure in his talks with Jiang that North Korea would understand there can be no solution to the nuclear problem that leaves out South Korea in the process, and asked China to drive this message home to Pyongyang. But all this is just another beginning.

The attention is now on how President Kim maximizes on the results of his U.S. trip, ties in his pledge of openness to his domestic policies, and how well he adapts to the post-Cold War international developments.

Tour 'Anecdotes' Noted

*SK2411064693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0610 GMT
24 Nov 93*

[Text] Washington, Nov. 23 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam leaves Washington for home on Wednesday, winding up a nine-day official visit to the United States and leaving a trail of episodes and anecdotes. Here are some of them:

The Seoul government had pushed a plan for President Kim to hold a summit with Indonesian President Suharto, to be held right after the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) leaders conference on Blake Island, off Seattle, on Nov. 20. The Kim-Suharto summit was planned in view of Indonesia's stature as a member of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the non-aligned movement. Korean officials explained.

The two sides agreed, and even set the date for the summit. But a tug-of-war between officials of the two countries over the site of the meeting then ensued. The Indonesians insisted that the summit be held at the place where Suharto was staying. The Koreans counterproposed "a neutral spot," but Indonesia was adamant about its demand and the summit had to be cancelled.

President Kim was said to have been reluctant at first to receive an honorary doctorate from American University. The reason, sources said, was that American University is not well known in Korea and that a few Korean politicians had studied in that school. Moreover, President Kim had been offered honorary degrees by several other universities. But presidential aides were swayed in favor of American University when they found out that it has not only bestowed honorary degrees on Presidents Dwight D. Eisenhower, John F. Kennedy and Bill Clinton, but also that President Kim would be the first foreign head of state to be so honored.

Members of the U.S. Security Service (SS) who were assigned to guard President Kim were very much impressed by the state of his health. Some of them even called Kim "superman" as he never skipped an early morning work out—jogging or swimming—while in the United States. But they did a great job of guarding the visiting president. They even searched for about an hour the football ground of Georgetown University, where President Kim was to jog early in the morning. Thanks to their water-tight security operation, most reporters, including Chongwadae [presidential offices] reporters who accompanied Kim to the United States, had a hard time approaching the president.

President Kim gave receptions for Korean immigrants in Los Angeles, Seattle and Washington, D.C., and each time he urged the "Americanization of Korean immigrants," telling them "to put down their roots in America and adapt themselves to American ways of life." But before Kim departed Seoul, presidential aides had agonized over the phrase, questioning whether it would be all right for the president to tell Korean-Americans these things. For, they worried, the remark could be interpreted to mean that they should not lean on their mother country for support in their adopted nation.

In the end, President Kim himself decided to say it. After all, the president reasoned, urging them to adapt themselves to a new society and to become mainstream Americans was correct and earnest encouragement.

Army Chief Meets U.S. Counterpart 23 Nov

SK2411061093 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
24 Nov 93 p 3

[Text] South Korean Army Chief of Staff Gen. Kim Tong-chin and his U.S. counterpart Gen. Gordon R. Sullivan yesterday talked on enhancement of military exchanges, bilateral cooperation and other matters of mutual interest between the two allies, the ROK Army [ROKA] said. The talks took place when Sullivan called on Kim at his office in the Kyeryongdae Integrated Military Complex south of Taejon, according to the ROKA. He came here Monday at Kim's invitation for a five-day tour.

Before the meeting, the U.S. Army chief of staff reviewed a military honor guard on the parade ground of the Kyeryongdae complex in which the three service branches are headquartered, the ROKA said.

While here, Gen. Sullivan will meet with top defense officials and key military officers including Defense Minister Kwon Yong-hae and Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Gen. Yi Yang-ho.

A defense source said that Gen. Sullivan and South Korean defense leaders would exchange views on a broad range of measures which the ROK-U.S. Combined Forces Command (CFC) would take to better cope with a security contingency on the Korean peninsula, possibly triggered by North Korea.

ROK, U.S. 'Expect' DPRK To 'Act by Mid-Dec'

SK2411060893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0552 GMT
24 Nov 93

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 24 (YONHAP)—South Korea and the United States have a tacit understanding that North Korea must act by mid-December for progress on the nuclear issue, Vice Foreign Minister Hong Sun-yong said Wednesday.

"The two presidents did not announce a deadline, but it could be interpreted as a tacit understanding that the nuclear problem has to be solved by mid-December," Hong told a hearing of the National Assembly Foreign Affairs Committee.

Presidents Kim Yong-sam and Bill Clinton met in Washington and announced "thorough and broad" efforts to resolve the North Korean nuclear situation. They said the matter was "time sensitive" but that they had decided not to set a deadline.

Hong said that he expected North Korea and the United States to hold a working-level contact in New York soon for Washington to explain to Pyongyang what was agreed on at the Seoul-Washington summit.

North To Send Red Cross Officials to Panmunjom

SK2411085493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0644 GMT
24 Nov 93

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 24 (YONHAP)—The North Korean Red Cross has again demanded that the Korean National Red Cross [KNRC] return letters and other belongings that North Korean prisoners of war [POW] left behind when they were repatriated after the cease-fire in the Korean War. Yi Song-ho, acting chairman of the northern Red Cross, made the demand in a telephone message to KNRC President Kang Yong-hun on Wednesday.

"Refusing to return the letters and other things of People's Army soldiers condemning members of the U.S. Armed Forces for their atrocities (against North Korean prisoners of war) is a crime that will be long remembered in history," Yi said. He said he would send two Red Cross officials to Panmunjom on Dec. 24 to receive the "letters and other things."

North Korea's Red Cross first demanded their return on May 5, claiming the letters and "things" revealed that U.S. forces had used North Korean POWs in weapons and germ warfare tests during the Korea War (1950-53).

Editorial Urges Prudence in Talks With North

SK2211144493 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean
21 Nov 93 p 3

[Editorial: "The Confusion of Instruction and National Interest"]

[Text] The confusion that occurred in connection with the government's instruction during the eighth round of North-South high-level talks is belatedly emerging as a political issue.

This issue on the surface appears to be a controversy whether a certain individual's alleged distortion of the government instruction really led to the failure in the negotiations for the reunion of the displaced families. However, underlying the political issue that has been raised belatedly is the conflict between the hawks and doves in the government and the political parties over the policy to the North, and the ideological conflict in our society.

Therefore, this issue should not be dealt with simply from the standpoint of investigation into the performance of duties of a government official, but from the standpoint of executing the state affairs and the national interest. It should be dealt with prudently taking the following points into consideration:

First, under the basic framework of the Southward policy North Korea has been employing, the argument between the hawks and the doves concerning our policy to the North is unproductive. The eight rounds of North-South high-level talks, despite the fact that they assumed the form of talks, were in fact a diplomacy for propaganda

rather than a diplomacy for negotiation. Therefore, regardless of the direction of our policy, the North-South high-level talks had limitations, as the talks were destined to achieve no tangible agreement other than the agreement on the form of meeting.

In the negotiation for the exchange of special envoys over the North Korean nuclear issue as well, North Korea has not shown any significant change from its previous line of Southward policy. Only when North Korea sends us a serious signal that it is willing to bring a solution through a package deal with us as well, can the hawkish and dovish stance come to have any meaning. Therefore, at the present stage, there is no reason why we should waste our national energy on the controversy over the hawkish and dovish stance in our policy to the North. Therefore, there is no likelihood of truth in the allegation that the reunion of the displaced families and their home visits were not realized because of something on our part and not because of the North's invariable Southward strategy. Such an allegation must be based on political strategic interest.

Also, our policy to the North and our reunification policy should not become material for political conflict between the government departments and between political forces. The diverse discussion of reunification policy ought to be conducted in the interest of the country for the 70 million Korean people on the Korean peninsula. Reckless publicity campaigns for reunification policy should not be conducted between rival forces in the name of national consensus. Hence, the president should make a specific effort to dissolve the conflict over the policy to the North as soon as possible in the interest of the nation.

The process of solving this issue ought to be done as much on camera as possible. In the process of the conflict in our policy to the North turning into a political issue, the details of our handling of the policy to the North have been made public to the extent that it will affect considerably the inter-Korean talks in the future. It brings considerable loss to the national interest by exposing ourselves in a naked state to the other side while the practical inter-Korean talks may be forthcoming soon. Therefore, the opposition party, which seeks an opportunity to become a party in power in the future, should deal with this issue more prudently in the interest of the country.

Russia To Continue DPRK Contacts on NPT

*SK2411031093 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean
23 Nov 93 p 2*

[By reporter Yi Chang-hun from Moscow]

[Text] Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev said on 22 November that it is dangerous for countries which border Russia, including North Korea, to breach the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. Foreign Minister Kozyrev referred to this in his news conference at the

press center of the Russian Foreign Ministry that afternoon in commenting on Ukraine's possession of nuclear weapons. He also added that talks between the International Atomic Energy Agency and North Korea are now underway, and that Russia will continue to hold contacts with North Korea concerning the North Korean nuclear issue.

Probe of Yi Tong-pok's Role in N-S Talks Ordered

*SK2211035793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0248 GMT
22 Nov 93*

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 22 (YONHAP)—The Board of Audit and Inspection (BAI) has decided to look into allegations that Yi Tong-pok, a special assistant to the director of the Agency for National Security Planning (NSP), altered the outcome of the inter-Korean high-level talks last year by withholding vital instructions from the president.

"We will stake the honor of the BAI on ferreting out the truth," BAI Chairman Yi Hoi-chang says. The BAI probe is expected to extend to those officials at Chongwadae [presidential office], the National Unification Board (NUB) and the NSP who were involved in the dialogue last year and even to former President No Tae-u.

The allegations were made last week by Rep. Yi Pu-yong of the Democratic Party [DP] during a meeting of the National Assembly Special Committee on Budget and Accounts.

He charged that when Yi was spokesman for the southern side in the South-North high-level talks he concealed a presidential order from the delegates during the inter-Korean dialogue in Pyongyang on Sept. 15-18 last year and called on the BAI to investigate. Supporting the allegation, the DP submitted a resolution to the National Assembly calling for a parliamentary hearing.

At about 9 PM on Sept. 16, according to Rep. Yi's allegation, the North Korean delegation to the high-level meeting in Pyongyang unofficially offered to accept South Korea's proposals for setting up meeting points at Panmunjom for separated families and exchanges of aged people for home visits in return for the repatriation of a guerrilla captured during the Korean war.

Chong Won-sik, prime minister and chief South Korean delegate, asked for presidential instructions regarding this offer at about midnight, and Yi Tong-pok separately asked for a cable confirming no change in South Korea's position.

At about 7:15 the next morning, Yi received "a mysterious cable from an unidentified sender" that confirmed Seoul's demands for regular hometown visits by separated family members, Panmunjom meeting points for these families and the return of abducted South Korean fishermen. But at about 4:15 PM he received a cable instructing the delegation to make a new offer. South

Korea would repatriate the guerrilla (unconverted communist Yi In-mo) if North Korea agreed to regular hometown visits by separated families and either of the other two proposals. Yi concealed this cable, orally approved by President No, from chief delegate Chong and other delegates.

At midnight on Sept. 18, North Korea agreed to set up meeting points at Panmunjom for separated families and offered to hold a Red Cross meeting on the matter, while proposing to prepare a memorandum of agreement that did not mention the repatriation.

Spokesman Yi then gave only the mysterious cable to Chong, deliberately preventing an agreement by withholding the later cable, Rep. Yi alleged.

He asserted that this had been confirmed at a high-level strategic meeting on inter-Korean dialogue presided over by Chong on Sept. 23. Attending the meeting were National Unification Minister Choe Yong-chol, Senior Presidential Secretary for Foreign Affairs and National Security Kim Chong-hwi, NSP Director Yi Sang-yon, Vice National Unification Minister Yim Tong-won and Spokesman Yi. Yi claims Rep. Yi's assertion is "not factual."

"The matter was made an issue during the parliamentary inspections in October last year, and then National Unification Minister Choe Yong-chol said in a hearing that the allegation of my ignoring the presidential instruction had been found groundless as a result of a thorough investigation," he says.

It is against this backdrop that the BAI has decided to look into the matter. But the BAI is very cautious about the investigation because it involves the highly sensitive matter of inter-Korean dialogue.

Moreover, Yi has been involved in inter-Korean dialogue since it started in 1972 and was picked as a member of the South Korean delegation to inter-Korean dialogue by President Kim Yong-sam in the spring. He is one of the South's few experts on North Korean affairs. If he is found to have played fast and loose with presidential instructions, as Rep. Yi alleges, he will be charged with neglect of duty. And the BAI is faced with the need to ferret out the truth for its honor as the nation's supreme auditing institution, which has inspected the Yulgok military buildup plan of the armed forces and the peace dam project, a sanctuary from inspection under the military governments, is at stake.

The BAI is expected to announce shortly how and when it will look into the allegations of misconduct.

Yi Tong-pok Resigns From NSP

SK2411002093 Seoul YONHAP in English 2320 GMT
23 Nov 93

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 24 (YONHAP)—Yi Tong-pok, special assistant to the director of the Agency for National Security Planning (NSP), has handed in his resignation

because of allegations that he concealed a presidential order during prime ministerial talks in Pyongyang in September last year, a government official said Wednesday.

"Yi said he will assume all responsibility himself because it is undesirable that the government and the NSP are having trouble due to controversy related to him," the official said.

Rep. Yi Pu-yong of the opposition Democratic Party charged last week that Yi concealed a presidential order from the prime minister and other delegates during the talks, and the Board of Audit and Inspection (BAI) decided to investigate the allegation on Monday. Yi was spokesman for the Southern delegation at the time.

"We have not accepted the resignation yet, because getting at the truth is the most important thing at the moment," the official said. "But we plan to decide whether to accept it according to the results of the BAI inspection."

Another official said this means that both the government's strategy for inter-Korean negotiations and classified documents have been leaked.

"We have to do something about it," he said.

Defector From North Details Food Ration System

SK2311075693 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean
22 Nov 93 p 22

[By reporter Yom Yong-nam from the "North Korea" column]

[Text] Recently, cooperative farms in North Korea have been busy holding account settlement meetings to evaluate the year's yield and to decide on each farmhouse's share. Cooperative farms throughout the country advertise that bumper crops have been achieved. Chongsan cooperative farm said that it had exceeded the year's grain production plan by 14 percent, achieving the greatest bumper crop since the establishment of the Chongsan plain. It is worth noting, however, that they never provide any figures on farmers' shares, but just say that their shares have "increased."

After declaring the Central People's Council's Decrees No. 96 and No. 102, North Korea repealed the liberal food-selling system in 1957, and since then it has applied a food ration system to all the people except cooperative farm workers.

Food distribution is managed completely and collectively by the Public Welfare Committee of the State Administration Council. With their ration coupons given through their work places or schools, North Koreans draw their food rations at the distribution center in each ri or tong throughout the country on the 15th of each month. It seems that the foreign media's recent reports on the rumor abroad about riots inside North Korea were distorted reports on stirs that took

place in the course of drawing food rations. North Korea has cut food rations many times, thus causing the people to dispute and protest whenever they stand in line for drawing their food rations.

According to regulations, each ordinary person of 15 and over is supposed to be given 700 grams of food a day at a cost of eight cents [chon] per kilogram. From 1973, however, food for four days was cut from the total monthly food ration of each person under the pretext of reserved rice in case of war and, from 1987, 10 percent of the reduced ration was cut again in the name of reserved rice and patriotic rice, thus resulting in a more than 20 percent reduction of the food ration.

Each householder is to receive ration coupons for his or her dependent family members and make requests for their food rations. Children under five and the jobless weak and the old are rationed 300 grams or less a day. The general daily food ration for children between 5 and 14 is 500 grams. Because food supply is restricted to various ration amounts set by the authorities, North Koreans have to buy food at a high price on the black market to cover the food shortage. Nowadays it is not easy, however, to buy food on the black markets due to a food crisis. Rice sells at 15-20 won per kilogram, and minor cereals sell at 10-15 won per kilogram on the black market.

North Koreans are given rice mixed with corn (corn rice) in different rates of mixture according to location and position.

Real rice is given only to a small number of the privileged class including party cadres. The ratio of rice and corn in food given to ordinary people, including workers and office clerks, in large cities such as Pyongyang and Kaesong, which many foreigners visit, was 5 to 5 for a long time, but has recently been reduced to 4 to 6. People in other areas are given rice mixed with 80 percent corn, flour, or other minor cereals. People living in the mountains and remote areas are given rice mixed with even 90 percent minor cereals.

As a part of its efforts to cover the food shortage of absolute quantity with saving policies, North Korea is carrying out the "Two Meals a Day Movement" and the "Movement To Eat Rice Mixed With Vegetables" from last year. It is also encouraging soldiers to eat noodles and rice mixed with vegetables and kimchi under the pretext of improvement of diet. Soldiers only, however, are given 100 percent of their food rations as provided by regulations.

Meanwhile, a certain amount of subsidiary food—such as bean sauce, soy sauce, and edible oil—is given to each household, and the amount is considered not small in comparison with main food including rice. People can liberally buy vegetables at a cheap price at food shops designated by the state, and the supply of vegetables is relatively smooth. North Korean defector Kim Chi-il, 30, said the above.

Ministry Proposes 'Offer List' for GATT Talks

SK2311070593 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
23 Nov 93 p 9

[By staff reporter by Yi Chang-sop]

[Text] In a commitment to ensure a successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round [UR] of multilateral trade talks, the Korean government will pledge part of its five-year financial reform plan in an offer list but threatened it will back away from doing so if the United States passes a tough financial services law that is designed to pressure other countries to open their financial markets.

The Ministry of Finance [MOF] said under the "revised" offer list for the Uruguay Round of multilateral financial services talks, Seoul will guarantee full national treatment and expand market access for foreign financial institutions operating in Korea.

The revised offer list contains parts of the nation's five-year financial reform plan. The new offer list is a sharp departure from Korea's previous rigid stance that it can not accept foreign demands to include the five-year reform plan in the Uruguay Round.

So far Korea has insisted on committing to the Uruguay Round what will happen in the local financial market "this year." But the MOF extended the time horizon to the end of 1995, which will give impetus to realizing a successful conclusion of financial services talks in the Uruguay Round, and clear away lingering foreign suspicions that Korea may change its financial reform plan without notice, many analysts said.

The MOF said included in the revised UR offer list is the nation's plan to "expand the foreign stock ownership ceiling," currently set at 10 percent, sometime in 1994 and 1995.

Seoul also decided to extend maturity of certificates of deposit (CDs) beyond the current 270-day limit. Furthermore, foreign banks here will be able to expand their CD issuance quotas sometime between 1994 and 1995, the MOF said.

Foreign residents in Korea will be given national treatment when they invest in Korean stocks from next year. The national treatment code will exempt foreigners in Korea from having to get an ID (identification) card before investing in Korean stocks. The portion of stocks foreign residents here will buy, will not be included when the 10 percent foreign stock ownership ceiling is calculated, the MOF said.

Under the UR offer list, Korea will permit foreign banks here to expand the "oversold position limit of foreign exchange spot deals," sometime from 1994-1995. The plan will give foreign banks here more leeway in the lending and foreign exchange business.

The government also decided to allow foreign financial institutions to expand their equity participation in investment trust companies and investment advisory services firms from 1995.

The MOF said foreign banks here will be able to reduce their "mandatory purchases of monetary stabilization bonds" in their management of trust accounts sometime between 1994-1995, it said.

All of these steps are contained in the nation's financial reform plan but by committing part of the program, mostly related with the operations of foreign financial institutions, to the Uruguay Round, Seoul demonstrated its willingness to push for financial deregulation and liberalization, many analysts here said.

Once committed in the UR offer list, Korea can not "change" its commitment under whatever circumstances.

Yim Chang-yol, assistant finance minister for international affairs, said, "We decided to accommodate foreign proposals to ensure the successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round talks."

Cho Kun-ho, director general in charge of handling international finance bureau said, "Korea will implement the financial reform plan, whether it is committed in the Uruguay Round or not without delay," adding that financial reform is necessary mostly for Korea's own needs. He said the revised offer list will be formally provided late this month when negotiators get together in Geneva for the Uruguay Round talks.

The new offer list means that Korea will implement, at least two of its three-stage financial reform plans, without rescheduling, he added.

Seoul's concession was made after U.S. Assistant Treasury Secretary Jeffrey Shafer's visit to Korea early this month. Shafer, who has been under pressure from the Congress, said that Korea and other Asian countries should open their financial markets if they do not want to face a retaliatory action from the U.S. Congress.

The latest MOF commitment will, at least diffuse "nationalistic sentiment" among U.S. legislators to pry open financial markets in other countries. Analysts expect the U.S. Treasury Department will have more rationale to dissuade the Congress from legislating a bill aimed at targeting closed foreign financial markets.

But the MOF said it will "retain the right to waive the commitment if the United States legislates the Fair Trade and Finance Services Act, which will apply discriminatory treatment of the most-favored-nation (MFN) status to GATT members and may be used as a tool to pressure other countries, including Korea, to open their financial markets more.

In the revised UR offer list, Korea also decided to scrap the "economic needs test" code when the MOF considers issuing licenses to foreign banks, fund managers

and investment trust companies for opening liaison offices here. The abolition of the "economic needs test" requirement is an attempt to eliminate the "discretionary power of bureaucrats."

Thus, the MOF has no choice but to issue licenses to foreign fund managers or banks for setting up liaison offices when they meet the requirements set by the Korean government. Currently, the MOF has discretionary power to reject foreign applications to launch business in Korea, although they may meet all requirements set by the government, by using the "economic needs test" code.

Korea also committed itself not to "re-regulate" what has been liberalized before the end of this year. Previously, Seoul said it will undertake "standstill commitments" for limitations on market access and national treatment as of June this year.

Many analysts here said Korea's offer list for financial services will mitigate lingering foreign concerns that Korea may reschedule its financial reform plan. Furthermore, the other Asian countries have no choice but to follow suit to ensure the successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round, they said.

The MOF said in return for making more concessions, Korea has received assurances from major western countries, including the United States and the European Community, to address specific discriminations Korean financial institutions in foreign countries face.

For example, the United States decided not to discriminate against foreign financial services firms when New York State issues licenses to brokers and dealers.

It said Germany decided to permit foreign banks there to participate in underwriting groups for its federal bond issues. Canada also decided to scrap its "license renewal system" for foreign banks each year. Canada also agreed to abolish the foreign equity participation limit in Canadian banks, the MOF said.

Six Illegal Immigrant Iranians Arrested

SK2411092093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0845 GMT 24 Nov 93

[Text] Pusan, Nov. 24 (YONHAP)—The Pusan Immigration Office arrested six Iranians on charges of robbery on Wednesday. An immigration official said the Iranians arrived in Seoul in September without visa and have since illegally stayed in the country beyond the maximum 15-day duration allowed to non-visa tourists.

A preliminary probe showed that while staying mostly in this port city, the Iranians habitually committed acts of robbery or cheating against foreign seamen and tourists including some Russian seamen, the official said.

Led by Mohamed Hoseyn, 29, who spoke fluent English, Japanese and Russian, they used to approach Russians and other foreigners at bars and stole their money after

they offered them strong liquor. The immigration office suspects that the Iranians might have robbed many foreigners in view of the fact that each of them had 300 to 400 dollars in their possession, the official said.

Agreement With PRC on Fiber-Optic Cable

SK2411084593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0555 GMT 24 Nov 93

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 24 (YONHAP)—Cho Paek-che, the President of the Korea Telecom Corp., and Luan Zhengxi, the director-general of telecommunications for China's Posts and Telecommunications Ministry, signed an agreement Wednesday on construction and maintenance of a fiber-optic cable linking Tae'an in South Korea with Qingdao in Shandong Province, a telecom spokesman said.

After a preliminary investigation, construction will start in June next year for completion in December 1995. The cost, estimated to be nearly 50 million U.S. dollars, will be borne equally.

The 570 kilometer undersea cable will have a capacity of 15,120 telephone lines, improving communications between Korea and China and between China and western countries.

Korea currently has just 284 telephone lines with China, and telecommunications traffic has expanded vastly since diplomatic ties were normalized last year.

Korea Telecom To Sell Shares in Four Firms

SK2411083793 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 24 Nov 93 p 8

[Text] Korea Telecom, the government-owned telecommunications giant, will sell off its shares in four communications firms, including Korea Mobile Telecom and Dacom, under a government plan to privatize public corporations. The Communications Ministry yesterday announced that it will privatize Korea PC-Telecom and Korea Telephone Directory, two of Korea Telecom's 10 subsidiaries.

After the announcement yesterday, the ministry submitted to the Economic Planning Board its plans to restructure Korea Telecom's subsidiaries and sell part or all of its stakes in other telecom operators. The plans call for Korea Telecom to lower its stake in Korea Mobile Telecom, the nation's sole cellular operator, to 33 percent by Dec. 9.

Korea Telecom has been trying to sell off its 25-percent stake in Dacom, the data-network operator and long-distance carrier. After having failed twice to sell the shares through competitive bidding, it now plans to sell them to public funds.

Korea Telephone Directory, which publishes telephone directories, is likely to be taken over by private advertisement agencies, said ministry officials. But it won't be

easy to privatize Korea PC-Telecom, an operator of data-transmission networks and PC-communications links, because it is heavily in debt, the officials said.

The ministry said the privatization timetable for the two companies will be announced after consultations with the Economic Planning Board.

The rest of Korea Telecom's subsidiaries will remain under the control of the state-run public telecommunications operator. They include Korea Telecom International, Korea Informatics and Telesis, Korea Port Telephone, Korea Public Telephone and Korea Telephone Card. But some of the companies will undergo significant restructuring. Korea Informatics and Telesis, for example, will give up one of its main business lines—offering advice and maintenance of PBXs (private branch exchanges).

Lawmaker Fined 5 Million Won for Accepting Bribe

SK2411062593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0558 GMT 24 Nov 93

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 24 (YONHAP)—Rep. Sin Sun-pom of the Democratic Party was fined 5 million won in Seoul district criminal court on Wednesday for violation of the political fund law. Sin was convicted of accepting 50 million won from Wi Chang-hwan in return for the opposition party nomination in local elections in February 1991. The prosecution had demanded a sentence of one and half years in prison.

Judge Yi Chang-ho said that the money Sin received from Wi was a bribe and not a loan as Sin claimed. Because Sin had returned the money and because taking bribes was the practice under previous governments, a small fine was sufficient punishment, the judge said.

As a result, Sin retains his parliamentary seat. Under the National Assembly election law, lawmakers lose their seats only if they are sentenced to prison.

*** Kim Yong-sam Seeks Election Law Reform**

942C0006A Seoul SISA JOURNAL in Korean 23 Sep 93 pp 12-15

[By reporter Kim Chae-il]

[Text] A great political revolution has begun. In two rounds of personal-assets registration, a considerable number of lawmakers have resigned their seats or about to resign them. Following the implementation of the real name financial system, fundamental change is being demanded of the existing political environment. It appears that, along with this, politics will be remade as political reform is pursued full-scale.

For six months, the knife of the anti-corruption campaign raised immediately after the birth of the Kim Yong-sam government has set the reformation mood. If we can call this the reformation's first stage, then it is

fitting to call the sudden implementation of the real-name financial system a flare signaling full-scale systemic reform. President Kim is now increasing the pace of political reform. Against its will, the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] decided to accept, as is, the outline of the "revolutionary," revised election-law bill prepared by the Blue House. In a word, the essence of the new election-law bill is to establish "elections that do not take money." Most DLP lawmakers cannot help but be dissatisfied with the Blue House bill that is "much more reformist" than election-law bills prepared by opposition lawmakers, but the mood is such that no one will openly oppose it. This is because at present justice and public opinion are on the Blue House's side.

One DLP official declared that the revised election-law bill would be passed in the regular session of the National Assembly. Although, because negotiations must be held with the opposition, one cannot draw hasty conclusions as to whether it will be passed during this year's regular session, it appears that it will be made a matter of public discussion through public hearings and televised debates.

Of the political reform-related bills, the core of the revised election-law bill agreed upon is based on an English-style election system, preventing candidates from even thinking about carrying out a "money election." Not only does it greatly reduce campaign costs allowed by law, it includes severe punitive provisions against election-law violators, such as complicity, punishments applying to both parties and invalidation of election victory. "Adopting this system means throwing away the ruling-party premium we had enjoyed in elections," said one DLP official.

Under the assumption that this kind of election system will be adopted, one observer's estimation is that, as a political reform measure worthy to be compared to the first election after independence, it may become the framework for innovative reform. As long as the man in power lacks the strong will needed to endure a situation in which the ruling party is a minority, this will be an risk difficult to carry out. The will of President Kim is known to be unshakable.

One DLP source did not deny that the "election revolution" promoted by the Blue House has strategic aspects aiming for a change in voter inclinations. At present, those in their twenties and thirties make up 58 percent of voters; a majority of the National Assembly, however, is made up of people past their mid-fifties. Not only does this political organization fail to reflect the sentiments of the majority of voters, it ultimately hinders social development. The higher the education level and lower the age of a population, the lower its voting rate. The fact that the voter-turn-out rate of the cities is lower than that of the country can be interpreted as the abstention from voting by many people because there are no ideas matching the sentiments of the new generation. It is predicted that for the 15th general elections, those in their twenties and thirties will make up over 60 percent

of voters. The election revolution, in keeping with this tendency, is a reform measure with sights set on the beginning careers of up-and-coming politicians, according to this source.

His words suggest that in the party nominations for the 15th National Assembly election, a large-scale changing of the guard will take place through reinforcement with new people. One DLP executive foresees that, compared to the 30-percent change of personnel in the party nominations of the past, the 15th general elections will see a change exceeding 50 percent. It is easy to guess that the subjects of this personnel change will generally be from the Democratic Justice Party [DJP] and Republican Party [RP] factions. This judgment is based on the fact that the DJP and RP factions are relatively accustomed to money-using election practices and that unless DLP structure, of which they make up a majority, is transformed through personnel changes in party nominations, it will be difficult to achieve an election revolution.

It is no exaggeration to say that, until now, our country's elections, from general elections for regional assemblies to presidential elections, have been a fight of capital against capital. Present law stipulates that campaign expenses are limited to from 60 to 70 million won to about 100 million won, depending on the number of constituents in an electoral district. Expenses, however, are limited in word alone. It is common knowledge that a campaign actually takes several 100 million won. Therefore, in this political climate, the general perception is that "even if General Yi Sun-sin were to run for the National Assembly, he couldn't get elected without money."

If election law is revised according to the Blue House's plan, then both established politicians and up-and-coming political hopefuls will compete on equal footing. This is because the up-and-coming politician will be relatively less disadvantaged if the established politician, who has money to spare, is limited in its use. From a reform perspective, large-scale personnel changes in party nominations aim to strengthen the administration's powerbase as well as reflect the president's intention. Thus, one core DLP official says, "Political reform will be completed through party nominations." This is to say, following the transformation of the system itself, although there is no artificial reorganization of the political sector, a spontaneous change of the political playing field is unavoidable.

Then, did President Kim succeed in turning politics upside-down as he intended? The view that the remaking of politics through party nominations will fail is not easy to refute. If legal limitations on campaign expenses are strictly held between 40,000 to 50,000 won, then this is no different from saying that one practically cannot campaign; opportunities for candidates to make themselves known will be drastically reduced. As this cannot but be a "hometown election," it will naturally be advantageous for the well-known, established politician.

Active members of the National Assembly are allowed by law to be in continual contact with their district's constituents through constituency reporting meetings; however, they get hung up by the "early-election-campaigning" clause, making entry difficult for up-and-coming politicians. Furthermore, in preparation for defeat in party nominations, DJP and RP-faction lawmakers and local-chapter chairmen not presently members of the Assembly are putting all their efforts into district management. If this system becomes established, maybe it will work out, so the argument goes, but at least for the 15th general election, it will be much to the advantage of the incumbent lawmaker, even though he does not receive a party nomination.

Many more observers, however, believe that there is a greater chance the new politicians nominated by major parties will be elected over established politicians who failed to be nominated. In an election system which has been changed in a revolutionary way, the political current itself will be transformed. This is because, judging from the fact that public awareness is changing every day, it is predicted that by that time, voter inclinations will also have been transformed in a revolutionary way. We can say that the well-known person will have an advantage at first, but we cannot compare using this alone. Although the established politician is well known, there is a probability that he will be criticized for past practices as well. Moreover, assuming President Kim's popularity continues, we may see a "coat tailing" phenomenon, in which a person is elected by holding on to the coat tails of a popular leader. One core Democratic Party [DP]-faction official says, "Survival itself in the rapidly changing political environment will be difficult for the established politician if he does not change his way of thinking 180 degrees," strongly suggesting that the political environment will not conform in a way advantageous to the established politician.

On the other hand, it can be supposed that in the event members of the DJP and RP-factions do not gain party nominations, they will withdraw from the DLP to form a third party. A third party, however, cannot be an important variable in the reorganization of the political sector. This is because, although new personalities will be brought into the party, the party nominations will be done under the supposition that a majority of seats must be secured. This means that, in actuality, reformist character and potential for winning the election will both be considered. With this, we can consider the possibility of an artificial reorganization of the political sector. As long as no sudden variables appear capable of threatening their stable base within the National Assembly, "this will be impossible," an aid to President Kim bluntly states. He says that not only will President Kim not go with such an irrational move, but it would not help the political situation. He stated that although soon after taking power, some of President Kim's aids actively planned creating a "reformist party" through an artificial reshuffling of the political structure, now, however, another conclusion has been reached: "if we do that, we're all dead."

Instead of an artificial reorganization of the political sector, their direction is toward changes in political personnel through systemic reform and party nominations. If the political current begins to flow in this direction, there may be fluctuations in the perception of ruling-party territory. To correct the structure of the DLP, Kim may put forward former Secretary General Choi Hyong-u, some observe. In connection with this, stories are circulating that former Secretary General Choi will be reinstated as the next DLP president. This and his discordant relationship with Party President Kim Jong-pil are drawing attention.

In connection with the personnel changes in the political sector, there is also a need to pay earnest attention to the progress of personal-assets registration. After the second round of personal-assets registration, the "problem" lawmakers of the DLP in particular were filled with trepidation. Almost 40 showed more than 1 billion won difference between the first and second registrations. According to one DLP official, of these, five to six persons will end up resigning their seats. Another ruling-party source, however, says the scale of these resignations may become much larger depending on the determination of President Kim. He said that Kim revealed his intention to take decisive measures concerning lawmakers whose property problems have stirred up controversy.

The purge winds appear about to blow violently through government-service circles in connection with assets registration. This will take place about the end of this year, when the actual investigation into published assets is completed. A purge of bureaucratic society is unavoidable because it is a reformation in the consciousness of public servants that will lead the whole reform. According to one DLP official, in the past, purges were carried out by the cruel method of fixing a quota for each department, but now the basis and justification for a purge have been secured through assets registration. This purge of the bureaucracy following assets registration is, when seen from a different point of view, connected with the administration's strengthening of its power base.

Convincing stories are circulating that the cabinet will be reshuffled at the end of this year. It is reported that the Agency for National Security Planning has begun a detailed investigation into materials needed in preparation for personnel changes to follow a reshuffle and purge of the cabinet. Giving plenty of consideration to the problems occurring in the formation of the first cabinet, not only will the personal circumstances of potential cabinet members be thoroughly clarified, but persons who might be suspect because of the way their personal assets were formed will be completely eliminated from the process, according to a ruling-party source. There are even stories that So Sok-jae, an aid to President Kim who lost his seat in the National Assembly due to violation of election law, will be reinstated and that opposition lawmaker Yang Sun-jik and former lawmaker Kim Kwang-il will be appointed to important positions.

What relationship does the real name financial system have with personnel changes in the political sector? Surpassing the simple purpose of making political funds transparent, the real-name system is completely changing the established political climate and the form of its politicians. Thus, even the real-name financial system, an economic-reform measure being compared to a nuclear bomb, is considered by some to be focused on political reform, rather than being based on an actual diagnosis of the economy. Those holding this position say this measure was taken largely from political motives aiming to strengthen the administration's powerbase.

Behind the core of the ruling party, the DJP and RP factions making up a majority of the DLP, are conglomerates with enormous financial and information power. It was judged to be impossible to reform politics without gaining control of invested forces. Implementation of the real name financial system was a clever means for doing this. According to the analysis of those holding this position, the administration is pursuing the work of full-scale, political reform with the help of public opinion after weakening invested forces to a certain extent.

The heart of President Kim's political reform is the strengthening of the civilian nature of government, says one DP-faction figure. Not only does President Kim want to sever ties with past military governments, but he is very proud of heading the "first civilian government." Mentioning that the present administration is the "first civilian government," former president No Tae-u withdrew from his position that his administration, built on the basis of the "29 June Declaration," was a civilian government. President Kim's policy is to eliminate any hint of the military from his administration; it appears that a considerable number of ex-military lawmakers will be cleared out through the 15th general-election party nominations. The prospects are that their place will be filled by opposition figures able to fully support the administration's civilian and moral character.

The opposition too is really feeling the change in the political environment. Yi Sok-hyon, a member of the Democratic Party's Reform Politics Group says: "In future elections, victory will not be decided by how much a candidate participates in the weddings, funerals, etc., of the people of his district; rather, voters' choices will come to be based on which candidate is a clean and reformist politician." This is to say, if the opposition parties nominate fresh new personalities, they can overcome their inferior numbers and be very successful.

President Kim is attempting a great revolution through systemic reform. This may be an enormous risk for him. He is the type enjoying risk itself. Observers say the success of his reform depends on economic success. Personal-assets registration, the real name financial system, and the election revolution are all reform measures. This is directly connected with strengthening the administration's powerbase through the remaking of

politics. Within the larger framework, a great political revolution and reorganization of the political sector has already begun.

* Economic Expert Suggests Industrial Alliances

942C0001A Seoul MAEIL KYONGJE SINMUN in Korean 13 Sep 93 p 6

[Text] Global industrial leaders, today, are expanding their application of various industrial alliances and mergers with not only companies of their own country but also those of foreign or multinational origin as a mechanism for their survival in the field of ever increasingly fierce international competition.

These corporations are not at all hesitant to coalesce with others, domestic or foreign, for activities ranging from a simple technical cooperation or a joint use of facilities to an all-out merger in order to secure necessary technology, minimize newly developed product liabilities and maintain the advantages of the economy of scale in such areas as product sales and product-parts procurement.

Yesterday's adversaries, subjects of jealousy and suspicion, are gladly extending their hands to one another for common profitability. This phenomenon is particularly prominent in the field of electronic communications and computer industries together with intelligence technology which has seen some dazzling new development. There are numerous examples of this; such as IBM and Apple Computer, IBM and Matsushita of Japan, and various technical cooperations between Phillips of Europe and Matsushita of Japan.

A few days ago, there was a report in this country that the Swedish Volvo Automobile and the French Renault both of which are well known already in this country had announced their merger. It was reported that those two companies had been firming up their grounds for close business cooperation for the past three years. It is obvious that those two companies had decided to coalesce with each other in the hope to win the fierce battle of the international automobile market competition.

The critical fact in all of these alliances and mergers among the global industrial leaders is that they make the competitive environment tougher for our businesses in the international market. Accordingly, I question whether our businesses, having to compete in such a tough environment against those global leaders, could afford to ignore this worldwide trend any longer.

Yet, the fact is that our businesses, in general, are not accustomed to cooperating with not only foreign enterprises but even those of our own country.

It is of utmost importance for our businesses which are urgently in need of obtaining and securing new technologies and markets to cooperate closely with the global industrial leaders. Our businesses, thus far, have preferred a foreign business entry in the form of loans to

that of a joint operation or a capital investment. Of course, one of the underlying causes of this is the economic policies of the government reluctant to grant foreign stockholders to share in the same financial and taxation benefits and incentives made available to businesses.

Also, it is true that the government has been inclined to minimize any possibility of either direct investment or joint capital formation in fear that they, particularly Japanese capitals, might overpower our businesses. Another basic reason for this has been that our businesses are not prepared even internally for an environment conducive to cooperation with one another in addition to their reluctance to work with foreign companies resulting from historical background and economic prerequisite.

Professor Lestor Thurow of MIT in the United States predicates that the twenty-first century belongs to Europe in his book, *Head to Head: The Coming Economic Battle Among Japan, Europe, and America*, which was much discussed recently in this country, as well. He observes that Europe would exceed America and Japan and take the lead in the twenty-first century. Naturally, there are a good many who disagree with him. However, one thing in his view that is interesting is what Professor Thurow points out to be the Japanese weakness.

What he states is that the Japanese corporations would have difficulty in securing personnel from foreign countries for global management and specialization. In other words, the Japanese corporations' inherent weakness is that they would be unable to bring in first-rate managers and specialists from foreign countries as long as they hang on to their tradition and business culture in which a foreigner is not expected to be on the top of a corporate ladder. In contrast to this, Europe, having the advantage over Japan as its corporations are ready to accept any professional managers and specialists they need, is in a position to take accordingly an advantageous high ground in the international competition.

From this perspective, one can safely state that our tradition and business practices are not that far apart from those of Japan. Consequently, Professor Thurow's observation makes us turn our attention to some critical pointers. It is yet a fact that there remains, here and there, in our society the "hermit kingdom," this age of internationalization and globalization.

All of us, who can not but deal with the world and, within that world, attempt to establish our new position and enhance our industrialization effort, must break away from such mentality. Furthermore, it is imperative above all that our businesses having to compete day in, day out with advanced industrial nations' and multinational corporations in world markets sharpen their global perspective and proceed on to initiate close cooperation with foreign corporations and train their personnel to be able to fit in their various plans of industrial alliance.

Our society in general tends to be shallow in the effort of training area specialists. And our industries are not an exception in this score. We ought to stress that the overseas training programs be widely implemented together with the training programs for area specialists.

However, the positive posture of our businesses and the readiness of necessary manpower alone would not bring about the industrial alliances with foreign corporations we would need. There has to be a contributory factor of strength that our businesses can offer to the other party. Therefore, our businesses must keep on nourishing the strength of the area where they perceive themselves having a relatively superior achievement to its fullest extent.

Finally, I would like to emphasize that we must positively campaign for and realize implementation of policies which are friendly to achieving various industrial alliances and mergers with foreign corporations and creating a conducive environment to direct investments by foreigners which are necessary for our economy to establish its new foundation for international competition.

* Performance of Top Companies Assessed

932C0237A Seoul CHUGAN CHOSON in Korean
9 Sep 93 pp 62-64

[By reporter Choe Hong-sop]

[Text] Free enterprise is the essence of capitalism.

The "Top 3,000 Companies of Korea 1993" recently published by the Korea Management Association [KMA] mirrors the history of ups and downs of business firms in this country.

The rankings published annually by the KMA, an educational body for industries, based on the previous year's performances of all the companies in Korea, are considered the most authoritative statistics showing which company recorded the highest sales and/or earned the largest net profit. In short, it gives clear information of who has sold most goods or services and who actually earned the most money.

The Office of Tax Administration also releases a list of the top 100 enterprises annually based on the corporation tax paid. But it can hardly be a faithful reflection of the performances of companies because companies vary in tax exemption they draw. Therefore, it can be said that the KMA release is the most reliable "report card" on businesses.

The standings of business companies in Korea changed as much as the history of the nation's rapid economic development did. According to a recent survey by the Japanese NIKKEI BUSINESS JOURNAL, the average life span of businesses is 30 years. Most of the top 30 enterprises in the first KMA survey in 1965—conducted for the purpose of promoting openness of enterprise—

have since either gone out of business or have been absorbed by other companies and changed their names.

In 1965, Tongmyong Lumber was the top with 2.4 billion won in sales, followed by Kumsong Textile, Panbon Textile, Kyongsong Textile, and Taehan Woolen Textile in that order. They all have changed their names, to some unfamiliar ones.

At the time, Korea had just embarked on its first economic development program, and there were no heavy industry firms among the top 30, which were mostly raw materials and light industry firms. They were leading the way for prosperity thanks to the special military procurements for the Vietnam War. The so-called three powder industries—cement, flour and sugar—were having their best days.

The top ten groups in the 1960's were Samsung (chairman: Yi Pyong-chol), Samho (Chong Chae-ho), Samyang (Kim Chung-su), Kaepung (Yi Chong-nin), Tonga (Yi Han-won), Lucky (Ku In-hoe), Taehan (Sol Kyong-tong), Tongyang (Yi Yang-ku), Hwasin (Pak Hung-sik), and Hanguk Glass (Choe Tae-sop). Of them, only two—Samsung and Lucky-Goldstar—remain among the top ten today.

A decade later, in 1976:

As large-scale plant and equipment investments made vigorous headway, the Korea Oil Corporation topped the list with 5.2 billion won in sales, followed by the Korea Electric Power Corporation [KEPCO] and Honam Refinery Co., in that order. Heavy industry firms were making decidedly good showings.

In another decade, in 1985, it was trading companies that were advancing by leaps and bounds. Samsung Co. took the first place with 3.801 trillion won in sales for the first time, followed by Daewoo Corporation and Hyundai Corporation in the second and third place respectively. Meanwhile, Sunkyoung took the tenth place, Lucky-Goldstar International Corp. the 11th, Ssangyong Corporation the 18th, Hyosung Corporation the 23d, and Kukje Corporation the 24th. Thus, all the major trading companies found their way to the top 30. The three lows [labor cost, interest rate, and exchange rate] had generated a boom and the Export-First doctrine wielded its power once again.

Then in 1992:

Samsung Co. registered 12.557 trillion won in sales, topping the list in that category for the eighth consecutive year since 1985. Samsung's sales are enormous indeed when compared with the 510.1 billion won of Tong-Yang Cement Corporation in the 100th place, 109.6 billion won of Sampoong Construction Industry in the 500th place, 45.9 billion won of Kyung-Won Industry in the 1,000th place, 21.4 billion won of Se-A Special Steel in the 2,000th place, and 13.0 billion won

of Namsung Shipbuilding in the 3,000th place. The sales of the top enterprise were 1,000 times those of the company ranking 3,000th.

Amid a domestic slump, Samsung Co. succeeded in winning large-scale orders worth more than \$100 million, including marine facilities for India, a chemical plant for China and harbor cranes for Singapore. At the same time, it kept developing markets for its "SS" mark apparel to keep the top place.

Modeled on Japan's *sogo shosha* [general trading companies] known for selling everything from instant noodles to missiles, Samsung Co. would deal in anything which it thinks will pay. In the days when Yi Pil-kon, who is now president of the CHUNGANG ILBO company, was its vice chairman, it launched a full-scale internationalization program including the accelerated hiring of local employees. It has since been expanding its global network of bases.

The key question is how long it will be able to hold out against the "Mighty Goliath" Japanese *sogo shosha* in a future showdown as a trading company representing Korea.

In terms of net profit, however, Samsung Co. ranks 84th and way behind Daewoo Corporation, causing some to be skeptical about its business style.

Companies listed for the first time among the top 100 in the annual sales category are Goldstar Electron (from the 166th place to the 89th), Golden Bell Co. (from 140th to 89th), Lotte Construction Co. (from 116th to 95th), and Sunkyoung Industries (from 101th to 99th). Among those pushed out as a result were Sammi Steel Co. (from 83d to 107th) and Dongbu Industrial Co. (from 92d to 102d).

Of the 3,000 major companies, the top 100 account for 52.3 percent of the total sales and 75.8 percent of the total net profit, indicating that the concentration ratio of economic strength remains markedly high.

The Hyundai Group has 11 of its affiliated companies among the top 100 in the sales category, the largest of all groups. But they rank considerably low in the net-profit category in comparison with their sales.

In the case of Hyundai Corporation, ranking second in sales, its sales increased 19 percent over the previous year but the net profit fell by 41 percent. Hyundai Motor Company, ranking 8th, registered an 8 percent gain in sales but a 22 percent decline in net profit. Meanwhile, Hyundai Motor Service Co. recorded a 17 percent increase in sales against a 14 percent drop in net profit.

Hyundai Construction, ranking 18th, showed a 6 percent gain in sales against a 25 percent decline in net profit. Likewise, Hyundai Precision & Industry Co., ranking 42d, registered a 25 percent increase in sales but a 45 percent fall in net profit; Incheon Iron & Steel Co., ranking 54th, a 7 percent gain in sales but a 53 percent decline in net profit; Hyundai Merchant Marine Co., ranking 60th, a 7 percent gain in sales but an 11 percent

fall in net profit, and Hyundai Marine and Fire Insurance Co., ranking 90th, a 40 percent increase in sales but a 10 percent decrease in net profit.

A KMA source said that "in the case of Hyundai Motor Company, it could maintain the upswing in sales thanks to the popularity of its Elantra model, but the mounting financial cost from the discount race among auto firms caused a marked decline in its net profit." "In addition to that economic factor," he noted, "Hyundai companies were so deeply involved in Honorary Chairman Chong Chu-yong's presidential campaign that they were more or less negligent on the matter of profit. This added to the net profit downtrend."

The first place in the net-profit category has gone to the KEPCO which registered 763.5 billion won in short-term net profit. (It ranked fifth in the sales category.) The KEPCO thus ranks top in that category for the fifth consecutive year. As a result of the increasing demand for electricity, which cut its reserve power ratio to below 10 percent, the corporation showed marked improvements in the growth and net profit area.

Meanwhile, 12 companies not on the top 100 list in the sales category are among the top 50 in the net-profit category, showing off their "steady" business style. They are: Hanguk Mobile Communications, Goldstar Telecommunication, Hotel Lotte, The Daegu Bank, Daehan Chemical Fiber, Kumkang, Tonghwa Bank, Hanmi Bank, Samsung Petrochemical, Haitai Confectionery, Posong Housing, and Chongku.

However, the total net profit earned by the top 3,000 companies in the country was only 2.26 percent over the previous year, showing a weak performance. Especially, Sammi Corporation, Kyungin Energy, Kukdong Refinery, and Daewoo Motor, disgracefully ran deficits in net profit while ranking among the top 100 in sales.

In the case of Sammi Corporation, in charge of marketing the special steel products of Sammi Steel Co., one of its affiliated companies, a market glut and sluggish demand led to rapid increases in credit sales and inventories every year since 1989.

The only solace could be that, of the top 3,000, altogether 277 companies emerged from the red and reported a surplus while 203 firms went the other way around, the former being slightly more than the latter.

Meanwhile, who is the champion in each industry?

Needless to say, to be the champion both in name and reality, the company must rank first in both categories, the sales and the net profit, in its field.

Of 48 industries, the champions are the following 17 companies: Samsung Life Insurance (life insurance); Pacific (cosmetics); Chosun Refractories (ceramics and others); Kumkang (glass products); Ssangyong Cement Industrial (cement); Pohang Iron & Steel (steel); Korea Heavy Industries & Construction (machinery); Samsung Electronics (electric and electronics); Hyundai Heavy

Industries (shipbuilding); Hyundai Motors (auto parts); Samsung Aerospace Industries (precision machines); KEPCO (gas and electricity); Lotte Shopping (department stores); Hotel Lotte (hotel and tourism); Tachan Tong-Un (overland transport); Hanguk Tongsin (communications), and Hanjon Ki-Kong (service lease).

These companies can cry out loudly "I am the king in this industry." There should be no objection to it.

* Diplomat's Financial Assets Revealed

932C0238 Seoul CHUGAN CHOSON in Korean 23 Sep 93 pp 26-28

[Text] Diplomats and land speculation. Its difficult to find a connection between the two at first glance. That is because it would seem difficult for diplomats to expend the great amount of effort, required to be successful at land speculation, as they spend most of their time thousands of miles away from home. Nevertheless, it has been proven that Korean diplomat's tenacity for land, surpasses that of any other bureau's public officials. After the financial disclosure of public officials, our first-class, high-level diplomats, have become the object of much malicious gossip from many sides.

Lately, the atmosphere at the Foreign Ministry is such that, there is an embarrassing degree of confusion, apparent even to outsiders. Since the end of the 6th Republic, a time when diplomatic activity was closely monitored and controlled, diplomats have for the first time in a long time enjoyed a great deal of freedom. During the 5th and 6th Republics, diplomats practically had all autonomy taken away, and the Blue House, as well as other outsiders, were always breathing down their necks. But with the inauguration of President Kim Yong-sam and the appointment of Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu, and the establishment of his system, came a new motto, "Diplomacy by the Foreign Ministry." An air of excitement was present in the Foreign Ministry as chronic illnesses of the ministry, previously thought incurable, were dealt with. Diplomats had always considered themselves "the victims of military government", and this thought was one shared by persons in political, as well as social circles.

This was possible under the premise that diplomats had relatively high moral standards. Among Foreign Ministry operations, there were almost no cases related to graft. During the issuance of passports, they work directly with civil servants. Perhaps because there is no knowledge of such graft, to date there have been no cases of impropriety by active duty diplomats concerning the issuance of passports. As far as graft, corruption, and bribery are concerned, diplomats are public officials who have stayed away from such activities. These characteristics, along with diplomats' international awareness obtained from overseas assignments, and their carefree attitude, have resulted in the Foreign Ministry gaining an appreciation by the public different than that given to other government agencies.

However, after the "7 September Public Financial Disclosure of Government Officials", the virtue of the Foreign Ministry went to the chopping block. Compared with other bureaus, they had a great deal more assets which created an unfavorable impression. But the thing that put diplomats in the most difficult situation was suspicion as to how the wealth was acquired. One particular problem was the excessive ownership of real estate. After the public financial disclosure, whenever young employees at the Foreign Ministry get together, "senior's wealth" becomes a popular subject of debate. It is believed that discontent with the actions of normally well liked superiors has caused another explosion between the older and younger generations, within the Foreign Ministry.

First, let us compare some of the statistical details of the public disclosure of financial holdings of the Foreign Ministry. According to results from a Cho-sun Daily database search, among the top 30 first class administrators and above who hold the most property, nine of them, or 30 percent, are active service diplomats. When we consider that 137 members of the Foreign Ministry were the object of investigation, 19 percent of the total 709 government administrators targeted, the fact that diplomats make up 30 percent of the top property holders is certainly a high ratio. Of 137 people, two own property in excess of 5 billion won, three own 3 billion in property, nine have 2 billion, 17 have 1 billion. Over one fifth of the diplomats investigated (31 people), own over 1 billion won in property.

Concerning acquisition of real estate that can be definitely proved, one example is Kyong-gi-do's Yong-in district. If the land in this district owned by diplomats is calculated, including Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu, who owns 5,199 square meters, we would find names of a total of 13 diplomats. Of course they don't have any particular connection with Yong-in, especially some diplomats who are under investigation on suspicion of land speculation. A good example of this is the diplomat with the fourth-largest fortune, Kim Jung-hun, the Korean ambassador to Pakistan, who reported holding 3.425 billion won in assets. At the end of the '70s, Kim was selected to be the executive affairs chief, and it is rumored that he managed the personal finances of the foreign minister. Kim owns two parcels of land, both in Seoul's Kang-nam, one in Chung-dam-dong and one in Yang-jae-dong (Kim reported the value as 1.97 billion won). He owns two 60-pyong (measure of size) apartments, one in Ap-gu-chung-dong and the other in Jam-shil. In Seoul he owns one house, and in Tae-gu another, and in Seoul, Jun-nam, Hae-nam, and Chung-nam he owns forests and fields. There are also indications that support the suspicion that he failed to report ownership of additional land, located throughout the country. It is believed that he went to elaborate lengths to hide his ownership of land, by registering it in the names of himself, his wife, and his second eldest son. Since long ago, Kim, a career diplomat, has been classed within the Foreign Ministry, as one with a great insight about land.

The active service diplomat who ranks first in financial holdings is Lee Sung-hwan, the Korean ambassador to Greece, who does not look good either. The son-in-law of a certain media president, it was known that Lee was a man of wealth. But just in Seoul, in Kang-nam-gu, Non-hyun-dong, in his own name, he owns a house on 512 square meters of land, a store and his own private recreational park. He owns a great deal of land that he registered in his wife's name, in Chong-no-gu, Gahwai-dong, (5,786 square meters), in So-Cho-gu a shopping center, in Kyong-gi-do, Bun-dong, and We-wong City, Kwang-ju-gun, it has been discovered that he owns 54,568 square meters of forests and fields. In Ambassador Lee's case, having worked as deputy director in both the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and the Special Licenses Office and having the background of an economic official, his real estate holdings are very inappropriate.

Park Chul-gil, diplomatic security research chief, is the second wealthiest person in the foreign ministry, with 5.4 billion won. His property located in Seoul Kang-nam, Non-hyon-dong (a 961-square-meter lot), is reportedly worth approximately 4.31 billion won. This has become quite a subject of discussion. He purchased this land in 1973 while preparing to leave country for an assignment in Australia. Park explained that at that time, he sold his house and borrowed money from a bank to make the purchase, and in the past 20 years the value of the property has increased approximately 860 times. After that, one can find no indication of business or speculation. While going abroad for foreign assignments, one method diplomats use to multiply their fortune is purchasing land. This particular case, is a good example to illustrate that habit.

Then there is Chae Ung, the Korean ambassador to Poland, who reported 1.111 billion won in assets. He is suspected of land speculation by such methods as disguised transfer, under another name. In 1980, during the Kwang-ju incident, he was a special forces brigade commander, and assisted in quelling the rebellion. Because of that, he was subpoenaed by a 5th Republic board of inquiry in 1988, while serving as the ambassador to Pakistan. Already infamous, Chae has become the object of suspicion and contempt concerning the process he used to increase his wealth. The 1.6 billion won reported by Headquarters Ambassador Kwon Dong-man has caused a great deal of protest. The property, listed in his and his wife's names, consist of three apartments as well as land acquired through disguised transfer listed in his eldest son's name. Kim Kee-il, the consul general of New York, owns much land in Kyong-gi-do and is the target of much malicious gossip. Likewise, diplomats, because of land related suspicions, are receiving much contempt.

With one voice, their explanation is "these were legal investments." Diplomats normally alternate, three years overseas and three years at home, but it is not uncommon to find diplomats who serve over six years abroad. Accordingly, one safe method of investment is to purchase land, using money obtained through leasing or

selling their home in Korea. Since the end of the '60s, diplomats have chosen land for a sure investment. When we consider the social climate, and other factors of that time, it is an understandable choice.

Most of the high-level diplomats, who were the subjects for this public disclosure, have been chief consulates for 15 to 20 years. In the past, chief consulates stationed abroad used their special privileges to defer living expenses down to almost nothing. Not only did they obtain a place to live at government expense, they also received cars as well as every convenience. As a result they were able to save almost their entire salary. At the present time, chief consulates including their salary, and intelligence expense account, receive an average of \$5000 every month. Diplomats presently abroad, however, find it difficult to purchase a house after returning to Seoul, even after saving all of the allowances. But, until the early '80s, diplomats who served in areas with comparatively low costs of living, such as the Middle East, Southeast Asia, and Africa, say that it was possible. For instance, in the '70s with only \$3000 in savings, you could buy a house. This is the most used example by diplomats, when explaining the process they used to increase their fortunes. But younger diplomats see an ethical problem with the senior diplomats, who used these special national privileges, and invested in land every time they went abroad.

But there is another reason for the young diplomats' anger too. The majority of the senior diplomats suspected of getting rich, received all kinds of special privileges as chief consulates when they were in their early forties. Now however, diplomats in their early forties are only section chiefs. Also, no matter how hard they save, it is impossible for them to buy a home, and even chief consulates are only able to buy a house after they reach their mid-fifties. In fact, a great number of active service diplomatic section chiefs worry because they do not own their own home. As a result, after this first public disclosure, the most fierce criticism came from within the Foreign Ministry itself. There is nothing the Ministry can do about this internal discord. First of all, Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu himself is receiving a lot of criticism because of his ownership of land in Yong-in. The majority of the accused diplomats argue that they are innocent. Adding to the confusion are the accusations of the public, who criticize all of the Foreign Ministry, young diplomats and old alike, thus creating an air of extreme contempt. But, based on this, it is emphasized that the career diplomat system must ensure higher ethical standards. Many say that consular offices need to be managed more efficiently.

* Assessment of Stability of Northeast Asia

932C0239 Seoul CHUGAN CHOSON in Korean
9 Sep 93 pp 54-55

[Text] Amid changes in the world, pertaining to the present situation and the course to be taken for the stability and economic cooperation of the vast region

including Northeast Asia and the North Pacific, an international scientific conference was held in the Jefferson Hall at the University of Hawaii in Honolulu, Hawaii, from 18 August through 21 August. In the conference, held under the joint auspices of the Research Institute For Far East and Russia, affiliated with the Asia-Pacific School of the University of Hawaii and International Economy and Politics Research Institute of the East-West Center, 38 scholars from nine countries including the United States, Canada, Russia, China, Japan, Hong Kong, Mongolia, India, and Korea, took part and had lively discussions.

Called in the conference, I, the present writer, reported various opinions of Koreans regarding the stability of the region and the future of the Korean peninsula, and listened to the opinions of other experts. Out of numerous analyses and outlooks discussed in the conference, I will extract only about the Korean peninsula.

First the participants observed the situation of stability of the region. To my surprise, almost all of the participants regarded the region as stable. In short, the present situation was said to be politically and economically very stable.

In his first thesis on "the international relations of the Far East, Russia and the North Pacific region" Dr. Charles Morrison, head of the International Economy and Politics Research Institute of the East-West Center advised that as the ideological confrontation of the region was over, lively efforts are being made to promote the economic cooperation and will continue even in the future.

Dr. Vladimir Ivanov of Russia, in his thesis on "the present and future of Russia's policy toward Asia and the Pacific," said essentially the same thing as Dr. Charles Morrison. Dr. Ivanov, senior researcher of IMEMO or the Research Institute For World Economy and International Relations of Russia, is now studying the triangular relations of the United States, Russia, and Japan at the American Peace Research Institute located in Washington, D.C. Claiming that "the triangular relations of the United States, Russia, and Japan now dominate the stability and peace of the region," he pointed out that the relationship will unshakably continue until at least the year 2000. In the thesis, Dr. Ivanov said the prospects for Russia was relatively bright. Although the political reform of Russia may possibly fail due to many difficulties, he concluded that it is more possible that it will succeed under support of the western advanced nations such as the United States, Japan, etc.

Dr. Shi Min of China, in his thesis on "China's view of the future of Asia and the Pacific region" also had the same view. Dr. Shi, who takes part in China's foreign policy decision-making as the Assistant Director of Social Science Research Institute of China and the vice-president of Asia Pacific Academic Society of China, concluded that "China is satisfied with the present surrounding circumstances. The relationship of

China to the United States, Russia, and Japan are quite satisfactory. The present surrounding circumstances of the region is stable and will continue to be so in the future."

In particular, regarding China's relations with Japan, Dr. Shi asserted that "It is a wrong view that China and Japan will compete with each other more and more for the leadership in the region and eventually raise the tension. Instead, the first goal for China is economic development. Therefore, China objects to anything which may disturb economic development." He emphatically asserted that "to develop its economy, China is particularly anxious for cooperation from Japan and therefore is doing its best to promote cooperation with Japan."

Dr. S. Yoshihide of Japan, in his thesis on "Japan's view of the present situation and the future of Asia Pacific region," also stated the same. The young scholar, a professor of political science at Keio University and presently studying Japan's relationship with the United States at the International Economy and Politics Research Institute of East-West Center, concluded that "it is wrong that Japan will, as some analyze, head toward becoming a stronger country with the new coalition government as a momentum and will eventually become a military power." He also asserted that Japan was anxious for continuous economic development, in addition to peace of the region and the world."

The views expressed by the debaters were almost all the same. Dr. Allen Whiting of the United States, the senior person at the conference and a specialist in Asian matters worldwide, himself expressed that he was also optimistic rather than pessimistic. Serving as a China analyst at the U.S. State Department, he wrote the famous book on the process of Chinese intervention in the Korean War, *China Crosses the Yalu River*. The distinguished scholar, a professor at the University of Arizona, contended that the pragmatist line of China, which absolutely requires economic development, earnestly supports international stability and will continue to do so in the future and that such existence of China contributes much to the stability of the region."

Such views constituted the mainstream of the conference. In addition, they also predicted that the future of Korea would be bright. It was said that although North Korea's policy on developing nuclear arms causes an uneasiness in the relations between North and South Korea, North Korea would eventually have no choice but to yield to the united pressure of the surrounding powers.

Within approximately a year from now, the problem will be settled in a relatively assured manner. Following this, the North-South relations which is at a standstill since 1992 will make good progress, all the participants likewise agreed.

Certainly, the issue of North Korea's nuclear arms became the center of all the participants' interest. A

variety of analysis, from the view that "North Korea already has an atomic bomb," to "No, although North Korea has enough plutonium to make an atomic bomb, it could not have made it yet," to "North Korea will certainly make an atomic bomb within about a year from now," were presented.

If North Korea has atomic bombs and what is more, nuclear-carrying rockets, will it not run the risk of using them? If North Korea's regime, which is in international isolation and internal economic impasse, is on the verge of collapse due to the chaos following Kim Il-song's death, will it not, as some worry, as a last resort launch nuclear attacks against South Korea?

To this important question, most of the participants gave negative answers. The scholars from Russia and China concluded that there was little possibility that such an occurrence would take place. Although the economic situation of North Korea is rapidly deteriorating, the people of North Korea will endure since they have been accustomed to such hardships for a long time. Even if some chaos follows Kim Il-song's death, a rebellion will not take place. Therefore, it was agreed that an overall collapse of the regime, as some Westerners think, is unlikely.

As the possibility of collapse of North Korea's regime became a topic, discussions on the unification of the Korean peninsula began spontaneously among the participants. They mainly analyzed that the sudden collapse of North Korea's regime, which would bring great influx of North Korea into South Korea, will impose a heavy burden on South Korea. In such a situation, surrounding powers may feel a strong desire to intervene and may eventually clash with one another in the Korean peninsula.

Therefore, obligated to play a leading role in the unification of the Korean peninsula whether it likes it or not, South Korea, considering such complicated situations, should prepare for policies toward North Korea and the unification policies.

The participants in the conference also actively debated on the development program of the Tumen outlet, which has been intensely discussed by five countries including Russia, China, Mongolia, South Korea, and North Korea, with the help of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). Dr. Mark Valencia, senior researcher of International Economy and Politics Research Institute of East-West Center was very enthusiastic regarding the program. He contended that if this program were to succeed, the region could be another Hong Kong and will bestow huge economic gains on its inhabitants, promoting the stability and peace in the region.

But Dr. Judith Sorenton, a professor of economics at Washington University, pointed out conservatively that, considering the domestic situations in Russia, it is

unclear whether the program will succeed or not and due to the lack of infrastructure in the region, vast amounts of investment are needed.

To improve the relations between North and South Korea, I stressed that the program should by all means succeed. Taking part in the program, North Korea will not only change its political line and attain economic gains, but also improve international relations, I pointed out.

*** Press Corps Grades Kim Yong-sam, Government**

932C0233A Seoul WOLGAN CHOSON in Korean

Sep 93 pp 136-159

[Article by reporter Cho Song-kwan]

[Text] The Chunchugwan in the Chongwadae Press Center on the morning of 12 August. Reporters accredited to the Chongwadae were relaxed, enjoying their leisure hours for the first time in a long time. The day before (11 August) they were informed by the office of the Chongwadae information secretary that the president has no definite schedule for 12 August. President Kim Yong-sam has always been busy attending as many as six or seven official functions a day in some cases; and on this occasion the reporters were wondering how long it has been since the last time President Kim Yong-sam spent a whole day without having to attend a single official function.

Close to lunch time Yi Kyong-chae, senior secretary for information, appeared in the central press room. Most of the reporters had left the room already because there was no news to cover, and only a few reporters were present. Senior Secretary Yi took the reporters to the restaurant in the press center to have lunch with them for the first time in a long time. Alcoholic drinks were served at the table. Because they had no news to cover, some of the reporters had quite a few drinks and their faces were red. On this occasion, the secretary made a passing remark, "There might be something in the evening." Asked by reporters what it would be, he was quoted as saying, "You do not have to be on edge, I suppose." He just tipped them off because the president had called him several times through the intercom since morning, asking him, "When are the reporters going to go home" and telling him, "See to it that they do not leave until 7 in the evening."

The press room was almost empty after the lunch hour, and there was no sense of urgency at all. Many of the reporters went back to their companies. It was between 3 and 4 in the afternoon that this relaxed atmosphere began to change. The whispering, "Something is cooking," spread out among several reporters. They called up several places making inquiries, but there was no inkling of what was cooking. Time went on.

There was a message from Senior Secretary Yi at 6 PM saying, "I have something to announce at about 1820 in the press room."

The message came after he confirmed President Kim's decision to put the real name financial system into practice at the conference of Chongwadae senior secretaries, which began at 1730. Appearing in the press room at 1820, Senior Secretary Yi said without giving the details: "There will be an extraordinary Cabinet meeting at 1900 and an announcement will be made at 1930. But I do not know yet who will make the announcement, the president or the minister." The reporters were guessing at what the announcement would be about. The prevailing guess was that it might be about some measure concerning the by-elections. The reporters had no inkling whatsoever of who would make the announcement. They reported their offices over the phone, "There is going to be an important announcement, but nobody knows what it is about."

Reporters almost shrieked when they saw the group of officials entering the Chunchugwan at about 1830. They were members of the Presidential Security Force. At that moment it immediately struck the reporters that "it is going to be the president who will make the announcement." They called their offices again telling them, "It has become certain that President Kim is going to make the announcement." Those reporters who went back to their offices early in the afternoon were hurriedly on their way back to the Chunchugwan.

The cameramen of the three television companies made hasty preparations necessary for TV coverage. They had less than one hour left. The announcement was to be made at the main press conference room on the second floor. There were not enough chairs, and people were bringing in chairs from the briefing room on the main floor. Some of the reporters helped them.

A news coverage war started among Chongwadae reporters. Each of them contacted the news desk in their office to discuss what the content of the announcement would be and how it should be handled in the report to be made. Still the guess persisted that the announcement would have something to do with the by-elections. Reporters from the morning papers could not wait any longer because of the deadline for the city edition. The remaining 30 minutes were the longest, busiest spell for Chongwadae reporters. One false move and they would commit an irreparable bungling. Past 1900, the guess that the announcement might be something to do with the real name system began to spread gradually.

It was about 1920, the time for the rotary press to begin rolling for a copy for proofreading. Senior Secretary Yi went out of the room and came back soon with a thick envelope containing printed materials. The reporters guessed right away that the printed materials were the printouts to be distributed among them. Yi Kyong-chae placed the envelope on the table and began to open it. The eyes of the reporters focused on the envelope.

The moment the reporters saw the title of the printout, there was a mingling of shrieks and sighs of relief. A reporter from a morning paper, whose morning edition

went out without a report about the real name system, lamented, "How could this happen!" But the arrow has already left the bow, and the paper missed the banner line, "Real Name System in Effect."

President Kim appeared in the conference room immediately before the scheduled time for the television coverage. He began to read his script standing before the television cameras at about 1935. Ten minutes past, and President Kim was on the last part of his special statement. But television viewers at home were wondering why his picture was not shown on the screen. They had no way of knowing that there was a technical glitch at the scene of the announcement in the Chongwadae.

It was at 1945 that the television hookup was established. On the TV screen, President Kim and Senior Secretary Yi Kyong-chae were seen speaking to each other about something—the senior secretary was whispering to the president to read it all over again because his statement was not carried on television. That was how the real name system was put into effect on 12 August with lightening speed. But no one made an issue of the blunder in the TV relay because everything proceeded in such a hurry.

Housed in the Chunchugwan, the Chongwadae press center, are the separate rooms for the reporters from central media, for those from local newspapers, for the photo and TV reporters, and the small press conference room on the main floor; and on the second floor, the main press conferee room, the administrative room, a restaurant, and so on. The Chongwadae press corps newspapers, 20 local reporters, and 20 photo and TV journalists—67 reporters in all.

The number is nearly three times as large as that during the Fifth Republic. Under the Fifth Republic only 25 reporters from 11 companies (including 12 photo journalists and TV reporters), excluding local newspapers and economic journals, had access to the Chongwadae. These reporters, except the reporters from the English newspaper Korea Herald, were divided into six groups for the coverage of Chongwadae.

During the Sixth Republic, the number of media that had access to the Chongwadae increased to 13 by adding HANGUK KYONGJE SINMUN and MAEIL KYONGJE SINMUN. The 13 companies include six dailies, namely, KYONGHYANG SINMUN, TONG-A ILBO, CHUNGANG ILBO, CHOSON ILBO, SEOUL SINMUN, and HANGUK ILBO; the press agency YONHAP TONGSIN; two broadcasting companies, namely, KBS and MBC; and two economic journals, namely, HANGUK KYONGJE SINMUN and MAEIL KYONGJE SINMUN. A small room next to the office of the Chongwade Secretariat on the first floor of the new building was assigned to the press. Although the space of the room was small, the reporters in those days felt cozy in the room because their number was small.

The number of Chongwadae reporters began to increase above the number in the period of the Fifth Republic

when the Chunchugwan, the Chongwadae press center building, opened in September 1990 under the Sixth Republic. At that time four additional news media joined the Chongwadae press corps. They were: KUNGMIN ILBO, SEGYE ILBO, HANGYORE SINMUN, and the Christian Broadcasting System [CBS]. Local newspapers simultaneously joined in January 1991.

In the present press pool representing the central newspapers, the following four reporters have been covering the Chongwadae since the days of President No Tae-u: Kim Hyon-il (CHUNGANG ILBO), Choe Kyu-sik (HANGUK ILBO), Kim Hong (KBS), Yi In-yong (MBC), and Han Myon-taek (CBS).

Reporter Kim Hyon-il, a graduate of the Seoul University Department of Philosophy and a junior to President Kim Yong-sam, has had the longest personal ties with President Kim among all the Chongwadae reporters. When President Kim was the chairman of the New Democratic Party [NDP] in the early 1970's, Kim Hyon-il, a student at the philosophy department of Seoul University, came to know President Kim Yong-sam for the first time while he was visiting graduates of the same department to collect materials for an academic program in his department. This personal connection once caused Kim Hyon-il a trouble with government authorities. Subsequently, Kim Hyon-il joined CHUNGANG ILBO; and 3 years later he became a political reporter during the first "Spring of Seoul" in the 1980's. Sangdo-tong, the NDP headquarters, was his first assignment, which revived his ties with President Kim, which still continue.

Reporter Cho Chong-min (MBC) has covered the Chongwadae since 1986 in the period under President Chon Tu-hwan. He continued to cover the Chongwadae until April 1989 following the inauguration of President No Tae-u. He worked in the information department after serving as a Washington correspondent for a while. He was reassigned to the Chongwadae beginning this April. He is the only reporter whose coverage of the Chongwade spans three consecutive presidents, namely, former Presidents Chon Tu-wan and No Tae-u and incumbent President Kim Yong-sam, though in varying length.

Reporter Yun Chang-chung (SEGYE ILBO) has a unique career among all Chongwadae reporters. This is his 13th year as a reporter. While working in the political department for nearly ten years, he covered Kim Yong-sam almost exclusively, first when Mr. Kim was the leader of the opposition party. Reporter Yu was working as an administrative officer (Grade 4, in charge of public relations), at the presidential secretariat for one year and three months from January 1992 through 30 March 1993, when he joined SEGYE ILBO again and began to cover the Chongwadae. When he, a former government administrative officer, applied for accreditation to the Chongwadae, the presidential secretariat was at a loss not knowing what to do about this unprecedented application.

The press corps in the Chongwadae press room operates in a unique manner because reporters accompany the president to cover his activities. The Chongwadae press corps has two representatives, one representing print media and the other electronic media. Choe Kyu-sik (HANGUK ILBO) represents the print media, and Kim Hong (KBS), the broadcasting media.

Operational funds for the central press room come from collections from the companies to which the Chongwadae reporters belong. In principle, each company contributes 30,000 won per reporter per month; but depending on circumstances, 50,000 won, or 20,000 won in excess of the normal amount, is collected. Most of the reporters are said to cover the operating cost out of their own pocket.

The former presidents used to send "encouragement money" to the secretariat and the press corps. A reporter from a broadcasting company described the atmosphere of the presidential secretariat, which no longer receives encouragement money, in these words:

"Even senior secretaries really seem to be short of money. To some secretaries, treating reporters to lunch once in a while seems to be a burden."

Under President No Tae-u, the Chongwadae paid a monthly transportation allowance to Chongwadae reporters, and in a vacation season or a holiday season, paid a cash gift (about 1 million won) to each reporter in the name of the president. But it is a well-known fact that when President Kim Yong-sam took over, these practices disappeared completely.

Pak Yong-hwan is the public relations secretary (Grade 2, in charge of information) and head of the Chunchugwan. While serving as deputy director of the Office of the DLP Spokesman, he accommodated reporters accompanying candidate Kim Yong-sam during the last presidential election campaign. He has had personal ties with most of Chongwadae reporters for several years. Secretary Pak told Chongwadae reporters the following:

"The Chongwade is the worst assignment for reporters among all government organizations. As far as the volume of reports is concerned, the reports filed by Chongwadae reporters for these five months are about the same as the volume that could have been written by five or six reporters together. There could be no pinch hitter. When a Chongwadae reporter misses a scoop, no one will cover him up, as a National Assembly reporter who made a similar blunder is protected. There was no token-of-appreciation money or a gift money during the last holiday season."

Chongwadae reporters have eaten lunch more often at the restaurant in the Chunchugwan since the new government was installed. They buy a meal costing 1,500 won. Even if they accompany the president outside, they eat at the cafeteria of the office the president is visiting

(at the enlisted men's mess hall in the case of a military unit) as the president does. They pay about 1,000 won per meal.

There is one accommodation the Chongwadae provides for reporters. They are allowed to use the bath facility in the basement of the Chunchugwan free of charge. Reporters say, "It is the only joy for us to take a bath to our heart's content."

President Kim Yong-sam took a vacation with his family at Chongnamdae from 29 July through 4 August. Most of the reporters took their vacation almost at the same time as the president did. Prior to the summer vacation season, the Chongwadae secretariat told the reporters that they could, if they wished, take their vacation at Chodo Island off Chinhae, South Kyongsang Province, the exclusive resort for the president. Announcing this measure, Senior Secretary Yi Kyong-chae made it clear that "the use of the Chodo rest center is part of the accommodations provided for reporters in conjunction with their reportorial activities." In this way he tried to prevent an unnecessary misunderstanding. The room charge was 7,000 won per day, and the price of food was 3,000 won per meal.

KBS reporter Kim Hong described the changed mood of the press room as follows:

"Upon receiving this offer, several reporters got together to exchange their opinions. Some presented the view that accepting the offer would run contrary to the principle that all free accommodations shall be turned down. However, noting the fact that Chodo Island was already opened to the boy scouts as their training ground, they reached the conclusion that the use of the Chodo facilities will pose no problem if the charges were paid as proposed. However, transportation was the problem. Chodo Island, which is under the jurisdiction of the Navy, has no ordinary ferry service linking it to Chinhae; only navy ships go back and forth between these two points. Accordingly, to reach Chodo Island, there is no other way but to use navy ships; and the question was whether naval transportation would be made available. The conclusion was that inasmuch as navy ships were there, there would be no problem in using them. In the end, some reporters spent their vacation on Chodo Island."

In fact, seven reporters took their vacation with their families on Chodo in late July. However, some of these reporters were on edge wondering how the press club journal KIJA HYOPHOE PO and the press union journal OLLON NOBO would react to their vacations on Chodo. Press Secretary Pak Yong-hwan also seemed to be worried "lest KIJA HYOPHOE PO should make an issue of Chodo."

The general reaction of Chongwadae reporters to the elimination of various accommodations and gifts from Chongwadae is that they rather "feel unencumbered" or "feel easy" now. One reporter in his forties warned in

these words: "This is the tunnel we have to pass through with caution; one false step and we will find ourselves covered with soot."

The target of coverage for Chongwadae reporters is the activities of the president and his secretarial staff. But under the former authoritarian governments, newspaper companies asked their reporters who had access to the office of the highest person in authority to perform extraneous duties not related to germane news coverage. In this connection, it is necessary to look briefly into the change that took place in the role of Chongwadae reporters under the successive governments.

The words "Chongwadae reporters" were coined when the Third Republic came into being following the 16 May coup (1961). In the days of the Second Republic, reporters entered the Chongwadae for coverage only when the president wanted to meet the press. No reporters were in the Chongwadae on a regular basis for news coverage.

After the 16 May military coup, reporters accredited to the central government began to frequent the Supreme Council for National Reconstruction [SCNR] for news coverage. When SCNR Chairman Pak Chong-hui was elected president and moved into the Chongwadae, most of them accompanied him. That was the origin of the Chongwadae press corps.

In the early days of the Third Republic, President Pak Chong-hui and Chongwadae reporters were on frank and unreserved terms. Reporters were open-hearted and could broaden the range of understanding between them and the president. When President Pak found anyone among the reporters to his liking, he wanted him to join the National Assembly or work on his side in the Chongwadae. However, this smooth relationship began to crack following the 1969 constitutional amendment providing for a third term for the president, and grew worse and worse in the wake of the 1972 proclamation of the Revitalizing Reform (Yusin).

With news coverage inside the Chongwadae growing more and more difficult, the office of the Chongwadae senior information secretary even prepared a gossip article for distribution among various media. From then on Chongwadae reporters paid more attention to their "extra-reportorial role." They were assigned an additional duty other than their reportorial duties, that is, the duty to "keep an eye on the office of the president."

The birth of the Fifth Republic under the new military leadership clamped more restrictions on the reportorial activities of Chongwadae reporters. The Chon Tu-hwan regime, which lacked legitimacy, paid extraordinary attention to the president's image-making in the course of consolidating its ruling foundation in its early days. It controlled all news reports concerning the president. As a result, most of the important reports on the Chongwadae in the era of the Fifth Republic were prepared and distributed by the office of the Chongwadae senior information secretary.

"Chongwadae reporters were the ambassadors dispatched to the Chongwadae by the news media and at the same time the ambassadors sent to the news media by the Chongwadae." This metaphor is a reflection of the atmosphere described above.

Until the Sixth Republic the Chongwadae was not a place for hustling news coverage activities but a "solitary mountain temple" which was not easily accessible even for reporters. Under the circumstances in which news coverage activities were rigidly controlled, the role of the reporters had to be changed paradoxically from one of writing news articles to that of watching the moves of those at the center of power and reporting their observations to the top level of their companies.

The birth of the Sixth Republic created for the first time an atmosphere which enables reporters to engage in news coverage activities in the true sense of the words. A Chongwadae secretary who has been on his job since the inauguration of the Sixth Republic describes the atmosphere in those days as follows:

"Since President No became president, spring winds began to blow through the Chongwadae Secretariat. As far as the atmosphere of the presidential secretariat is concerned, I think the changes were more extensive when the reigns of government were handed over to the Sixth Republic from the Fifth than they were when President Kim Yong-sam took over the presidency. The members of the presidential secretariat under President Chon Tu-hwan suffered from excessive stress and pressure, but the staff of the secretariat under President No was freed from pressures. Allowing on-the-spot coverage of the presidential press conferences and holding TV interviews were among the changes brought about by the Sixth Republic. However, it is a fact that a full-fledged competition in news coverage developed among Chongwadae reporters, entailing serious after-effects."

Currently, Chongwadae reporters have profound skepticism. They are accredited reporters alright. But there is the mounting complaint that they have very little opportunity to see the president and talk with him face to face.

As early as the first days of the Sixth Republic, there was one established practice in the Chongwadae press room for accredited reporters. When a reporter was newly accredited to the Chongwadae, or when an accredited reporter was reassigned somewhere else, he was given a chance to have a one-on-one conversation with the president. A current Chongwadae reporter who was accredited to the Chongwadae under the Sixth Republic made this comment:

"When it comes to the president's accessibility, there is no difference from the previous governments. At best, Chongwadae reporters can see the sight of the president from a few feet away on two or three occasions a month. I would say that present Chongwadae reporters have less opportunities like that than they used to have under the previous governments."

The following candid comment of a reporter of an influential newspaper in his forties sheds light to where accredited reporters stand in terms of their access to the president.

"In reality, all articles coming out of the Chongwadae are nothing but the president's remarks. Never before were the president's words given so much space. Oftentimes his remarks which have nothing to do with policy matters fill the pages of newspapers. I often become skeptical because not only his jokes but also the sound of his breathing are carried in the paper. The bulk of articles are filled with the president's remarks, but most of these remarks are conveyed through his spokesman. Therefore, when we are asked who meets the president often, we have nothing to say. President Kim often meets with executive officers of media companies who do not write reports, but seldom meet with accredited reporters."

There are roughly four ways to meet the president: a press conference; an informal meeting or a luncheon meeting; accompanying him as a member of the press pool during an official function; a personal meeting. Since his inauguration, President Kim Yong-sam has met the press four times—luncheon meetings with Chongwadae reporters on two occasions (4 March and 5 June), and two press conferences (the 3 June press conference marking his 100th day in office and the 10 July joint conference with U.S. President Clinton).

The office of the presidential information secretary stands between the president and the Chongwadae reporters. To describe their relationships in linear terms, the president—the information secretary—Chongwadae reporters—the public in the order given. In his first 4 March informal press conference since his inauguration, President Kim stated openly, "From now on I would like to meet reporters often." Despite this professed desire, however, the president and reporters are farther apart, and it would be correct to say that a thick wall stands between them. There is the main press conference room on the second floor of the Chunchugwan, the Chongwadae press center. But President Kim used this room only once, for his press conference marking his 100th days in office (without counting the one he held to announce the 12 August measure).

Reporter A in his late forties said, "under the circumstances in which the president seldom appears in public, there is only a unilateral supply of information by the office of the information secretary."

"We have no alternative but to depend exclusively on briefing by the presidential spokesman for information on presidential functions. But we are not sure whether the spokesman accurately conveys the atmosphere and the president's intent. Reporters think that in some cases the spokesman presents his colored view. We are skeptical as to whether what the spokesman says about the president's ideas is really the ideas of the president himself."

The former presidents occasionally had private talks with some of the Chongwadae reporters whom they trusted. No other means of news coverage could be more accurate for reporters than their meeting with the president in private. In the days under President No Tae-u, reporters of some influential newspapers said to have met with the president in secret for news coverage.

According to my survey, President Kim has never met any of the accredited Chongwadae reporters in private. There are two reasons for this. First, the average age of the Chongwadae reporters is early forties and they are not the right age group to whom President Kim would lay bare his candid views of state affairs and from whom he would solicit advice. Second, when the president finds it necessary to seek cooperation from the press, he has a wide channel for conveying his wishes, beginning with the presidents of newspaper companies and their staff officers. He does not have to go out of his way to meet with any of the Chongwadae reporters in private.

Reporters used to say, "For reporters to transfer from the Chongwadae means a promotion." This expression epitomizes the sense of satisfaction Chongwadae reporters used to feel. The following confession of a reporter in his late thirties eloquently describes the nature of the present Chongwadae as a reporter's beat.

"When I was told to cover the Chongwadae, I thought that my work was recognized by my company, so I felt good because I was now assigned to the best beat. But after I worked there for several months, I began to feel that the Chongwadae was just another beat and nothing more. If am reassigned to another post, I would not feel sorry unless the reassignment is a disciplinary action."

The words of reporter A of a national paper reveals another aspect of the Chongwadae as a reporter's beat.

"In the United States, it is a common practice for White House reporters to write a book or two about the presidency. But in my case, it is doubtful whether I would be able to write a book, entitled, for instance, 'The Kim Yong-sam Presidency,' or 'Kim Yong-sam in Command of the Military.' I feel that Chongwadae reporters should take interest in writing such books, but I am just spending time looking for material to feed my reports' each day."

After the inauguration of the Kim Yong-sam Administration, a strange thing happened in the Chongwadae—the phenomenon that the Chongwadae has become "no source of scoop" among all the beats for political reporters. In the past five months, reporters were busy doing nothing but digesting reports produced by the president because conditions did not allow them to take time to collect material for news coverage.

A reporter of a national paper in his early forties made the following self-deprecatory remarks about his role as a Chongwadae reporter:

"Under the former governments, Chongwadae reporters were able to collect a considerable amount of confidential information from off-the-cuff statements. But now confidential information has been made less available, and it has become harder to collect valuable information. Often times I feel keenly that Chongwadae reporters are not reporters, but public relations vanguard of the Kim Yong-sam administration, or to use more biting language, Kim's comfort women [Chongkim wianbu, a parody of Chonggun wianbu—comfort women serving Japanese soldiers during World War II]. The Chongwadae is still voicing dissatisfaction with the press despite the fact that we have written such large volume reports. I was greatly shocked at the paper read by Professor Kim Sang-ki of Southern Illinois University, the United States, at the seminar sponsored by the Newspaper Editors' Association in late June. Referring to the current state of the press, Professor Kim said "the press is playing coquet with the president. I began to doubt whether the current honeymoon between the press and the president as pointed out by Professor Kim is really good for the Kim Yong-sam Administration."

A reporter of an influential morning paper described the nature of reports pouring out of the Chongwadae each day in these words:

"Chongwadae reporters have virtually abandoned the competition over the quality of their reports. The competition is now about whether one reporter includes one or two more facts in his reports than another reporter does. They are more concerned about whether their reports are more pleasing to the Chongwadae authorities than writing reports that candidly criticize the government's policies."

A certain reporter of a national daily made this comment:

"I feel like writing articles pointing out problems in the presidential secretariat, but I am hesitant. This is partly because I am afraid that if I point out some problems in the methods used by the secretariat, the Chongwadae may react in a strange way, and partly because my company is asking me to refrain from doing anything that might strain its relationship with the Chongwadae. Such being the case, I don't even think of writing any critical articles."

A reporter who has been covering President Kim since he was in the opposition camp describes the limits to the coverage of the Chongwadae in these words: "In covering political parties, a reporter can get some inkling of how a party is moving if he runs about busily. But when it comes to the Chongwadae, no matter how diligently you try to cover, you cannot grasp the president's movements."

Most of the Chongwadae reporters covered President Kim Yong-sam in his RDP days or his DLP days. They are able reporters who are recognized by their respective companies as ones who know President Kim well. As their profession, these reporters have watched and

observed President Kim each day for these six months. They went around from room to room in the secretariat trying to see, in their words, "What the mood of the president is like," and "whom the president will meet today and what the subjects will be." At times they called on presidential secretaries at their homes at midnight.

On the basis of his observation in the past six months, a reporter of a morning paper analyzed President Kim's mentality in his own way as follows:

"The prototype of President Kim's political philosophy was already formed in the 1960's. In his judgment the history of the 30 years or so following the 16 May military coup (1961) was wrong, and he believes that it should be rolled back. That is why he is not happy when someone compares him with former Presidents Chon Tu-hwan and No Tae-u, his predecessors. At heart he seems to believe that he is more than a match for a man like Pak Chong-hui."

A radio reporter had this to say about President Kim's governing style: "To put it plainly, he is the type who can be satisfied only when things proceed as he wishes. Therefore, as far as I know, he is not influenced by his staff, except on economic issues."

Today, after the passage of six months, reporters observe President Kim Yong-sam's every move and word more calmly than before, a far cry from the excited mood that prevailed immediately after his inauguration. In fact, shortly after the inauguration, any reporter would have felt very happy and had an actual feel of living in the era of a civilian president if President Kim recognized him and addressed to him, "Reporter such-and-such, I have not seen you for a long time."

Customarily, when President Kim attends an outside function, he goes around shaking hands with people gathered.

This style looked fresh at the beginning. People hailed it characterizing him as a president who mingles with the public. But reporter A's view of this style of the president has changed. He said:

"Customarily, President Kim spends time shaking hands with people when he attends an outside function. As a result, pressed by time, the corners have to be cut from the main part of the function. A president is not supposed to fly to a far away place aboard his presidential plane simply to shake hands with people during an official function. The head of state is not such a leisurely job."

These words provide a key to understanding the behavior of "Kim Yong-sam the president," a president with a civilian political background. He became president through politics based on public opinion; and even today, as a president he manages state affairs by paying keen attention to the drift of public opinion. Stated reversely, public opinion-based politics means politics

based on popularity contest. The same reporter points out the dangers of politics based on popularity contest as follows:

"When the president is overly concerned about popularity, he is likely to fall into a trap. There is a time when the president who manages state affairs must boldly push ahead with a policy even if the public may oppose it for a while, if he believes that the policy will be to the best interest of the country in the long run. He should avoid what he must avoid even if his popularity may drop temporarily as a consequence. But President Kim is not in a position to ignore popularity. Already shackled to popularity, he cannot push a policy that may reduce his popularity."

Chongwadae reporters say that they get an impression of something like childlike naivety from President Kim's actions and words. He asks his aides: "How is the reaction of the press room?" This indicates that the president is fond of a "subtle taste." President Kim often uses the words like "for the first time," "epoch-making," "historical," etc. Excessive use of these words give the impression of "childlike naivety." In early August Yi Kyong-chae, senior secretary of information, said, "The remains of five former members of the Shanghai Provisional Government have been brought home from China, and this signifies that our civilian government is the successor of the legitimacy..." This kind of statement also comes under the category of childlike naivety. As everyone knows, the arrival of the remains of former members of the Korean provisional government has been made possible by the groundwork laid by former President No Tae-u for the normalization of Sino-ROK diplomatic relations.

The naivety of the president and his core staff members occasionally manifest itself in the standards for policy selection. The most important yardstick President Kim uses in choosing a particular policy is the question whether or not any of the preceding Administrations ever tried the same kind of policy. Even when a certain plan is worth studying at this moment, the president would not adopt it if a former government tried but failed. On the other hand he will adopt as the first priority whatever plan none of the former government ever tried.

True, the 12 August (1993) measure represents the fulfillment of President Kim's election pledge. Both Presidents Chon Tu-hwan and No Tae-u attempted to implement the real name system, but were foiled. President Kim daringly and proudly pushed ahead with what his predecessors were unable to accomplish.

On 9 August President Kim issued orders to the Cabinet through his General Secretary Pak Kwan-yong to "completely tear down the old building of the former Office of the Governor-General and erect a central museum on the site." Shortly before 1700 on that day the president posed for a photograph in his office in the main Chongwadae building before cameramen from the three TV

stations after issuing his "orders to tear down the Office of the Governor-General building." The cameramen shot pictures of President Kim while he was chatting with Secretary Pak Yong-hwan. At that moment, the president privately said to Secretary Pak, "Who did such a ridiculous thing? How come they housed the National Museum inside the old building of the Office of the Governor-General?"

These short, almost impolite words give a glimpse of President Kim's opinion of his predecessors. It was during the period under President Chon Tu-hwan that the National Museum was set up inside the empty building vacated by the Office of the Prime Minister and other ministries. All these central government offices moved into the new Integrated Government Building. During President No Tae-u's tenure, public opinion was divided as to whether or not the old building of the Office of the Governor-General should be torn down. With the words "Who did this ridiculous thing?" President Kim laid bare how he feels about his predecessors.

A Chongwadae reporter in his mid-thirties said, "It seems that soon after he occupied the Chongwadae, he felt that the former governments really did a lot of bad things." He added, "I got the impression that all these conjure up in him the fresh memory of the persecution he endured under the previous regimes."

Despite little chance to meet the president, Chongwadae reporters seem to gradually perceive the hidden side of President Kim Yong-sam that they have never seen before.

It is a well known fact that President Kim is the type who scrutinizes newspapers carefully. He reads political gossip columns, and even one-column comments himself. He is said to be particularly sensitive to any articles about his family. In the process of nominating a candidate for the 12 August Chunchon by-election, the DLP was in trouble as the tentative choice was replaced by another. Shortly after lawyer Yu Chi-han, 33, was tentatively chosen as the DLP candidate, President Kim reportedly got very angry because reports said that Yu's wife was a classmate of the alma mater of the president's daughter-in-law. Subsequently, Yu was dropped from the nomination and ran as an independent.

Reporter A of a national paper makes this analysis of President Kim's personnel appointment style:

"In hiring people, President Kim first hires people on his side and then hires those who are not on the other side. This is the most important criterion. He does not bother too much about the differences in ability. From the beginning, he has no thought of embracing those who have different ideas from his and moving forward together with them."

President Kim depends not on organization but on individuals in conducting state affairs, and this tendency still manifested itself even after he became president. This is to say that he does not think in terms of system.

Chongwadae reporters are all in agreement that President Kim will carry through his determination on reform to the end. In fact, he gets furiously angry at any hint that his determination looks somewhat flagging.

The typical cases in point are "the case of the DLP organ" and "the case of Quotations from Presidential Words." At the end of June MINJU CHAYU PO, the organ of the DLP, carried a special interview with President Kim marking the 50th edition of the paper. However, the DLP suspended the circulation of the entire 500,000 copies on the grounds that "some content of the report on the interview might cause misunderstanding as regards the direction of President Kim's reform drive." The reason was that some media said that the MINJU CHAYU PO article, entitled "From Government-Initiated Reform to Reform in Daily Life," is an indication of "a directional change in reform." The case of "Quotations from Presidential Words" is similar in substance to the case of the DLP's official paper. This case stems from the misreading of President Kim's inner mind by his staff, and President Kim was reportedly very angry about the case.

Chongwadae reporters had lunch with the president at Nokchiwon on 5 June. The luncheon was hosted by General Secretary Pak Kwan-yong. On the table were, in addition to lunch-boxes: Pochon unstrained rice wine, green pepper, cucumber, etc.

The gathering at Nokchiwon was realized as a result of the complaints conveyed to the presidential senior secretary from those reporters who were not given a chance to ask questions during the 3 June presidential press conference marking President Kim's 100 days in office. The newspaper companies that were not given a chance to ask questions included TONG-A ILBO, SEGYE ILBO, SIN SEGYE ILBO, HANGYORE SINMUN, and HANGUK ILBO, all of which by coincidence are known to have been unfriendly to the DLP presidential candidate Kim Yong-sam in the last presidential election.

During the 5 June luncheon meeting the President had an informal talk with the reporters on condition that he not be quoted. It was the first such meeting after a long interval. Sitting at the head of the table were: From among the Chongwadae reporters, Yun Chang-chung (SEGYE ILBO), Song Yong-on (TONG-A ILBO), Kang Chol-won (HANGYORE SINMUN), Kim Yong-man (SEOUL SINMUN), and Kang Chong-kyu (PUSAN ILBO), in addition to President Kim and General Secretary Pak. The following short excerpts from the questions and answers exchanged between the president and reporters shed light to one aspect of President Kim's mind.

There were some dried anchovies on the table, and the heads of most of the anchovies were removed. Seeing the anchovies, the president said a few words:

President Kim: When it comes to anchovy, its head is more tasty... How come today's meal is exceptionally good. It should not be that way.

Question: Now that you are settled down in the Chongwadae, do you like it better than your Sangdo-tong home?

President Kim: Oh! What are you saying?

Question: But the air is cleaner than in Sangdo-tong, isn't it?

President Kim: If only the air is cleaner, what is the use of it?

From this brief seemingly comical exchange, the reporter who asked those questions confided, "The president seems to be trying to give the impression that he is taking the lead in sharing pains with the public.

Yi U-sung, an SBS photo journalist, recalls that he caught the president's "awesome determination" with the lens of his camera on many occasions during his reportorial activities. On 2 April a ceremony was held in the presidential audience room next to the president's office on the second floor of the main Chongwadae building. At the ceremony President Kim swore in the new commander of the Capital Defense Command, Gen. To Il-kyu, and the new commander of the Special Forces, Gen. Chang Chang-kyu. After receiving pledges from the two new commanders, it was the president's turn to tie the ribbons on the two general's sabers. Binding the ribbons is only a symbolic procedure, and it is enough to bind them once. But President Kim bound them twice, thrice and four times. At that moment Cameraman Yi caught the facial expressions of the two new commanders. Beads of sweat streamed down their faces as the President was tying the ribbons. Recalling this scene after the ceremony was over, Cameraman Yi said the way the president tied the ribbons was symbolic of his determination with regard to the military.

The common press assessment of the presidential staff before the presidential inauguration was that "Many of them lack administrative experience." Most of the Chongwadae senior secretaries including the secretary general are "new faces." Being new faces, they are more determined and more ambitious to work harder. In the early days their awkward handling of administrative affairs resulting from their lack of experience became conspicuous.

At this moment, six months after the presidential inauguration, the performances of each senior secretary are being sized up in practical and concrete terms and not in simple speculative terms. Chongwadae reporters have watched closely every move of the senior secretaries, their most important source of information, and have their own assessment of the capabilities of each secretary.

Characteristically, the presidential staffers come from many fields. General Secretary Pak Kwan-yong, and Hong In-kil, senior secretary for general affairs, belong to the so-called inner loyalist circles; Kim Yang-pae, senior secretary for administrative affairs, and Kim Yong-su,

senior secretary for civil affairs, come from the officialdom; Pak Chae-yun, senior secretary for economic affairs, and Chong Chon-uk, senior secretary for foreign and security affairs, come from the academe; Chu Ton-sik, senior secretary for political affairs, and Yi Kyong-chae, senior secretary for information, come from the press; and Kim Chong-nam, senior secretary for education, comes from the dissident group.

All Chongwadae reporters without exception did not hesitate to give a "passing mark" to Secretary General Pak Kwan-yong. In their opinion, Pak is "outstanding" as a presidential general secretary in terms of political sense, an ability to comprehend problems at issue, the degree of faith placed in him, the depth of expert knowledge, leadership capability, and an ability to handle problems. In brief, in the eyes of Chongwadae reporters Secretary General Pak is the man who is fulfilling his role to the fullest extent possible. On the other hand, he was also described as a man who "tries to avoid criticism."

A reporter of a national newspaper who has been covering the Chongwadae since the era of the Sixth Republic, sized up General Secretary Pak in this way:

"The appointment of General Secretary Pak Kwan-yong was a superb idea of President Kim. He is not a sacred bone of Sangdo-tong, and the condition he is in is not so superb. Still he is leading the Chongwadae Secretariat smoothly. He refrains from making overreactions, and this is one trait of Pak Kwan-yong as the presidential secretary general that deserves a positive mark."

Chu Ton-sik was appointed as senior secretary for political affairs while working as a CHOSON ILBO editorial staff member who received the same treatment as that accorded board members. As was the case with General Secretary Pak, observers doubted Chu Ton-sik's administrative ability when he took up his new post. Nevertheless he gets an evaluation near the passing mark. According to Chongwadae reporters, Chu causes no trouble to the DLP and is properly playing his liaison role. A reporter of a broadcasting company made the following evaluation of Senior Secretary Chu:

"They say he is a senior secretary who is straightforward and naive in some respect. They also say that he is not the type who would lie when reporters ask him a question on a certain matter. He would rather say nothing than tell a lie. Accordingly, reporters trust what Senior Secretary Chu says."

Regarding Pak Chae-yun, senior secretary for economic affairs, and Chong Chong-uk, senior secretary for foreign and security affairs, many of the Chongwadae reporters view the appointment of these two men as a serious miscast. According to these reporters, these two officials are short in adaptability, and although they appear to be trying hard, they are awkward in grasping what is at the heart of each issue. In Pak's case, he is evaluated highly in terms of steadfastness and thrusting power, but the overall evaluation is below the passing mark.

The following evaluation of Senior Secretary Pak Chae-yun by reporter A, one of the Chongwadae reporters who is well versed in economics, is very suggestive at this time when there is little sign of economic recovery.

"Senior Secretary Pak's personality, lack of experience, and scholastic bias have surfaced as an issue at last. The presidential senior secretary for economic affairs should put aside his academic specialty and scholastic belief and make efforts in his capacity as the coordinator to help all economic factors move in concert. But until now all he did was move around delivering lectures. The economic ministries, corporations, and banks—the leading forces of the economy which should stand in the van—are all looking on as spectators, wondering "how well the guy is doing."

Another reporter in his forties made this assessment: "When Senior Secretary Pak Chae-yun organized his economic team, he hired only those whom he thought it would be easy to work with, ignoring ability and experience. This has ended up sapping the vitality of the economic ministries, such as the Economic Planning Board and the Ministry of Finance."

Said the same reporter: "One of the duties of the senior secretary for economic affairs in assisting the president who knows little about the economy is to draw a rough sketch of an economic philosophy and economic leadership style for the president. In this regard Senior Secretary Pak Chae-yun, who is outstanding as a scholar, drew a wrong economic sketch for President Kim. The senior secretary for economic affairs should also have a superb political sense and make the president understand that the economic and political logics could come into conflict with each other at times."

Another reporter of a national paper noted Senior Secretary Pak Chae-yun's lack of political sense. He pointed out that Pak sticks too much to his academic theories and has the tendency to leave the rest far behind. Referring to the meeting of the heads of conglomerates presided over by him at Swiss Grand Hotel in Seoul in late June, reporters regard it as a case of mistaken judgment because in their judgment the senior secretary for economic affairs should not appear on the surface like that.

Another example of Pak's stubbornness is the case of the "Special Presidential Report on Science and Technology." Currently, in the Chongwadae there is a secretary for science and technology under the senior secretary for economic affairs. Yi Sang-ui, former minister of science and technology, is the chairman of the Presidential Advisory Council on Science and Technology. The need for creating the position of special assistant for science and technology was raised several times in the presidential secretariat. But the proposal was rejected because of the opposition of Senior Secretary Pak Chae-yun. Reporter A, who is familiar with what is going on in the presidential secretariat, said: "Senior Secretary Pak Chae-yun has no concern whatsoever for science and

technology. Yet he does not want the secretary for science and secretary under him to be severed from him."

Some reporters also point out that Pak Chae-yun cannot read the mind of President Kim on economic affairs correctly. Some of them even say that sometimes they can read the mind of the president from Han Yi-hyon, chairman of the Fair Trade Commission, better.

In the case of Chong Chong-uk, some reporters point out that the ability of the senior secretary for foreign and security affairs to analyze problems at issue is outstanding as is normally the case with officials with an academic background, but his ability to cope with these problems is inadequate. In particular, Chong gets a low mark in his ability to deal with problems relating to North Korea. A radio reporter made the following evaluation in connection with the confusion over our policy toward North Korea that continued for a while in the new Administration following its inception:

"The presidential senior secretary for foreign and security affairs, though his rank is equivalent to vice minister, should have taken the initiative in making authoritative policy decisions. But he could not do it, nor did he try. All that he did was brief the president. In the final analysis, he has not measured up to the task of assisting the president."

Because Senior Secretary Chong Chong-uk failed to do what he ought to, Secretary General Pak Kwan-yong, who has his own view of the unification issue, had to come out to the front and adjust differing views in person in some cases.

Senior Secretary Kim Chong-nam for education is characterized as an "unattractive" senior secretary because he seldom meets with Chongwadae reporters and very few reporters originate in his office. However, no one denies that he is one of the influential officers. He ranks high in terms of President Kim's trust and the influence over the president. In connection with President Kim's task of redefining history, Senior Secretary Kim wrote speeches for the president and otherwise exercised a considerable influence on the president.

Let us hear what a reporter in his forties has to say about Kim Chong-nam:

"I understand that Senior Secretary Kim has played an active and positive role in the work of historical reevaluation concerning the Kwangju Incident and the 12 December Incident (1979). But with regard to educational issues, such as the trouble over the College of Oriental Medicine and the [dissident] National Association of Teachers [Chonkyojo], he seemed to be lacking in ability as senior secretary for education to anticipate the troubles beforehand, make necessary adjustments, and tackle with them."

Another reporter of an influential newspaper made this evaluation: "Coming from the dissident camp, Senior

Secretary Kim Chong-nam was expected to speak much for the position of the dissident camp. But in many cases he speaks more in a conservative tone than other senior secretaries." "With regard to the campaign for forming a human bond bridging North and South sponsored by Yi Chang-pok," said the reporter, "Senior Secretary Kim showed a skeptical response, and also showed a conservative stand toward the issue of the National Teachers Union."

CHUNGANG ILBO reporter Kim Hyon-il made this comment: "Reporters' personal feelings toward Senior Secretary Kim Chong-nam could be unfavorable in some cases. The reason why he is called conservative is that unlike other senior secretaries he eschews making irresponsible remarks and plays well the role of helping others find the right directions. I like to evaluate him highly for handling things quietly by using common sense."

Chongwadae reporters evaluate Yi Kyong-chae, senior secretary for information, highly for his commitment to reform. But regarding his role as a spokesman, there are more negative views than positive views. The duty of the Chongwadae spokesman is to convey the president's intentions accurately and lead Chongwadae reporters to write their reports in a positive manner with favorable feelings. Viewed from this standard, many point out that Senior Secretary Yi Kyong-chae fails to convey the president's mind correctly despite that to do so is the most important part of his duty. One of the Chongwadae reporters in his forties said, "In some cases he speaks irresponsibly, and at other times he explains by mixing up the president's words with his own words."

The most poignant criticism by Chongwadae reporters is that the current presidential secretariat is "a replica of the former Reunification Democratic Party [RDP] secretariat." This is to say that those who have no know-how about managing state affairs are unusually vociferous. According to a reporter from an influential paper, it is a serious problem that the present Chongwadae secretariat is not perceived as a place where persons of the highest caliber are drawn together as was the case in the preceding governments. The same reporter said as follows:

"In the past, officials of the highest caliber were assembled in the Chongwadae from various ministries. In the bureaucracy, working in the Chongwadae was regarded as a pride. In fact, officials assigned to the Chongwadae duties were given advantages. For instance, they were assured of a promotion when they returned to their original offices after serving in the Chongwadae. Such advantages will draw first-rate talents into the Chongwadae to assist the president enthusiastically. But since the new Administration was installed, there has been a tendency to try to avoid an assignment in the Chongwadae. Officials assigned to the Chongwadae are not only abused as bureaucrats stained under the old regime but also have difficulties to secure their old posts upon return from the Chongwadae duties, not to mention

getting a promotion. Under this condition, it would be difficult to regard the current presidential secretariat as a place where persons of the highest caliber are assembled."

They say the level of specialty and planning ability of the presidential secretariat is low overall. From a historical point of view, the Kim Yong-sam Administration is charged with the important duty to make preparations for the upcoming 21st century. But they say the presidential staff is a far cry from preparing the goals in this direction and putting them into practice. The prevalent critique is that the staff lacks in vision as well as in quality.

In the judgment of reporter A in his forties, the limitations of the key brains of the secretariat are gradually surfacing as they mark their 6th month in service. He said:

"The limitations of the inner loyalist group are coming to the fore in administrative aspects. Logical and rational stands and opinions voiced by various ministries are completely drowned by the loud voices of the inner loyalist group in the presidential secretariat, entailing confusion at times. Reportedly, in some cases the voices of secretaries who come from the inner loyalist circles have a greater influence on the president than the voices of the senior secretaries in their respective fields. Senior secretaries meet the president only on official matters; but those secretaries or administrators from the inner loyalist circles meet the presidents at any time to express their opinions, thus they have more influence than the senior secretaries."

In a way this criticism means that President Kim lacks in thinking in terms of system, and as a consequence he moves by relying on personal relations. To cite a typical example, President Kim's 9 August orders to tear down the old Office of the Governor-General building was made through his secretary general, Pak Kwan-yong.

A reporter of a national paper who has covered President Kim since he was in the opposition made the following comment:

"For any government, there must be a person who plays a villain's part. The civilian government cannot be an exception. The image of Kim Yong-sam the politician is moderate, and this is his strongest point. But none of the senior secretaries are willing to get criticized for the president, but they are letting the president play the villain himself. Currently, President Kim's image is projected as a reckless fighter. This is a big mistake."

A typical shortcoming of the presidential staff is imprudence resulting from a lack of experience. This lack of prudence manifested itself on 19 July. Defense Minister Kwon Yong-hae was under pressure from the opposition and the press to resign in consequence of an audit which uncovered his brother's involvement in the Yulgok arms modernization scandal.

Concerning the issue of whether Defense Minister Kwon should resign, the 19 July editions of CHUNGANG ILBO and KUNGMIN ILBO carried two contradictory reports. CHUNGANG ILBO carried the headline, "President Kim Returns Defense Minister Kwon's Resignation," whereas the KUNGMIN ILBO headline reads, "Defense Minister Kwon Likely To Be Replaced." The following is the background against which the two contradictory reports came out.

It was about 0930 on 19 July that Yi Kyong-chae, senior secretary for information, disclosed to the Chongwadae reporters that Defense Minister Kwon submitted his resignation on the 18th, the previous day. However, the reporters were on edge wondering whether President Kim would really accept the resignation because they knew very well that the Chongwadae was not in a position to replace Defense Minister Kwon despite the mounting misgivings about him among the general public. Asked by reporters whether the resignation would be accepted, Senior Information Secretary Yi Kyong-chae replied, "The president has said nothing about it, and he is mulling over the matter." Immediately after Senior Secretary Yi's meeting with the press, reporters had the inkling that an arrangement was made to return the resignation. But the Chongwadae showed the position that "chances for acceptance or return are half and half."

The morning wore on, and at about 1400 the reporters knew that the Defense Minister was scheduled to visit the Chongwadae at 1500, thus confirming that the resignation would be "returned." It was at about 1600 that the Chongwadae officially announced that Defense Minister Kwon's resignation would be returned.

A reporter in his late thirties from a national paper described the seriousness of the issue as follows:

"The defense minister's post is a very powerful one which is next only to the president in line of command over the military. But from 0900 till 1400 Defense Minister Kwon was in a state in which he lost his power and authority as the minister. With a view to showing the agonizing image of the president, the Chongwadae created a situation in which there was no defense minister for six hours. This was a grave mistake. The state of emergency means coping with any contingency, even one that has one-tenth of thousands possibilities. How could they let it happen?"

In the course of collecting materials for this report, I interviewed 42 of the 47 Chongwadae reporters and asked them the same questions. I met all the 27 reporters from national papers and 15 reporters from local papers (out of 20). (My interviews preceded the 12 August measure)

I asked, "It seems that the early stage of the Kim Yong-sam reform drive is evaluated as successful. If so, what is your outlook on the future of the Kim Yong-sam reform drive?"

Of 42 respondents, 21, or 50 percent, made negative prognostications, such as "So many precarious aspects," "Will not necessarily be as smooth as it was in its early stage," and "Pessimistic." On the contrary 18, or 43 percent, made a positive forecast, such as "Optimistic," and "Despite the variables, they will overcome them well and succeed." Only the remaining three, or 7 percent, said "Do not know."

Shortly after President Kim was installed, Chongwadae reporters were amazed by the thrusting power he demonstrated beyond expectation and took a sympathetic stance toward him. This atmosphere of the Chongwadae press room was similar to the atmosphere of the general public. But as the days go by, this early atmosphere changed gradually. Skepticism is rising gradually about the direction of the reform drive with President Kim on the forefront.

It is significant at this moment to examine the projections made by Chongwadae reporters whose duty it is to observe every move of the Kim Yong-sam Administration at close quarters and analyze it, regardless of whether their predictions are correct or not.

I believe that more attention should be paid to the "negative outlook" held by 51 of the Chongwadae reporters, a percentage slightly higher than those who have an opposing view.

A reporter who has been covering the Chongwadae since the last days of the Sixth Republic points out as the most serious impediment the fact that the bureaucracy is inactive holding its breath. He said:

"I would say that the Fifth and Sixth Republics, for all intents and purposes, moved on the back of the bureaucracy in conducting state affairs. On the contrary, the current bureaucracy is inactive holding its breath. True, the bureaucracy is the source of many problems. But bureaucratic know-how, such as their skills and carefulness, should be recognized, and disregard for these traits is a big problem."

Reporter A in his forties presented the following diagnosis and prescription saying, "It is awfully unsettling":

"In order for reform to be successful, it is necessary to pool the efforts of all strata, including the opposition parties. But at present there is no such pooling. The direction and method of reform needs a radical reexamination."

There seems to be a near agreement between the ways the present and his staff view the bureaucracy. A reporter in his forties from a national paper told of his experience. While discussing outstanding issues with one of the senior secretaries, he asked, "They are veteran administrative specialists, and how do you expect laymen to join them and perform their duties properly?" The senior secretary instantly responded, "Specialists! What kind of specialists are they?" adding, "the mid-level bureaucrats of that caliber cannot be regarded as specialists in the

genuine sense of the word." The reporter said that he was greatly shocked at the reply and wondered how the opinion of that official could be so different.

Reporter A of a national paper analyzed the reasons for the "unsettling prospects" from a different angle. He said:

"The president is determined to push things forward in the future in the same direction as in the past, and has declared that determination before the public. But if things go awry and the economic condition should continue to deteriorate rather than improve, unanticipated things may crop up. The future of the Kim Yong-sam reform drive depends on how the international environment surrounding the ROK economy will change."

Reporter A explained the uncertainty about support for the Kim Yong-sam reform drive by his own experience. He said:

"Among my acquaintances many spent their pocket money in support of the candidate Kim Yong-sam in the last presidential election. A considerable number of them are now leaving the ranks of supporters for the Kim Yong-sam reform drive. They are frustrated and even show an anti-Kim Yong-sam mood. In a public poll, 52 percent of those who support the Kim Yong-sam reform drive said, that they "would not mind paying more taxes only for the sake of reform." In fact, most of these people belong to the class which does not share much of the tax burden. True, up until now the number of people supporting the Kim Yong-sam reform drive is numerous. But I would say the financial and organizational power of the minority group which opposes the Kim Yong-sam reform drive is predominantly superior. In my opinion, how this group will act at a crucial moment is an important factor."

A radio reporter made the following analysis:

"The goal of the Kim Yong-sam reform crusade is the elimination of official corruption and the revitalization of the economy. But it is impossible to achieve the two goals simultaneously. I believe that if the new Administration concentrates on either one of the two goals during its term, it will be able to achieve the intended results."

A reporter in his thirties from a national paper said: "I think the president's determination for reform will endure as it did in the early stage. But it would be difficult to assume that the Kim Yong-sam Administration as a whole will maintain the same attitude as that of the president, that is, the attitude of sharing pains with the public, throughout the five-year term." A reporter from a local newspaper in the Yongnam area pointed out, "The major problem is that the Chongwadae is pushing reform with very little understanding of the feelings at the base level, such as the feelings of low-level employees of local governments and the common people."

MAEIL KYONGJE SINMUN reporter Kim Se-hyong is in his 12th year as a reporter and has covered various economic ministries for ten years. He forecasts "rough sailing ahead" for the reform drive as follows:

"President Kim's reform drive is being driven by uneconomic logic. Like his personnel management style, he uses the tactic of taking his opponents off guard. It was the case with the introduction of the real name financial system. The way of breaking through the impasse by such means that reflect an audacious determination is being cheered by a majority of the common people except those entrenched interests. However, the problem is that this strategy is much of an experimental and adventurous nature as suggested by the word uneconomic. The headache of the Kim Yong-sam Administration is that if things go well, the reform drive will succeed, but if they don't, the reform drive will become a nemesis of itself.

"It is just the sixth month since the new Administration took over. The reform tasks that need be tackled will continue for about two years. Achieving a sustained success in the long march for reform depends on how skillfully the government can dodge the resistances and spearhead attack by the vested interest groups. At the same time, it will become possible to set in motion the benevolent cycle of the success of the first reforms leading to the success of the second reforms, and so on. With regard to the question whether the cycle of reform will be a benevolent or vicious one, it will be difficult to give a correct answer on the basis of the reforms carried out so far which are of the surprise show type."

SEOUL KYONGJE SINMUN reporter Kim In-mo sites economic problems as his reason for feeling "uneasy" about the reform drive. He explained as follows:

"The theory of Pak Chae-yun, senior secretary for economic affairs, who takes the lead in the implementation of his new theory, has never been tested in any country, and I understand it is not supported by our scholars either. Even most of his secretaries for economic affairs say it is hard to understand his theory. When one has an untested theory, one should put it aside and follow generally accepted principles. But in Senior Secretary Pak's case, he is following his own unique theory.

"In the final analysis the new economic theory represents the theoretical version of President Kim's idea about the economy, namely, the idea that GNP growth and (price) stability can be achieved at the same time. The heart of the new economic theory is sharing of the pains. In the early stage the public may follow the government's lead to some degree. But where could you find a nation which would keep tightening the belt for 5 years in a row? This is something close to the "Calvinist capitalism" that emerged in the early stage of capitalism, and it is a far cry from the latter-day capitalism we live in.

"Another problem with the new economic theory is that no external variables are factored into it. The theory

might work if our domestic economy were shielded from the effects of the world economy. Moreover, the new economic team does not seem to have a definite perception of the volume of currency in circulation. They do not seem to regard the volume of currency in circulation as an important factor."

A reporter from a national paper who has long covered the ruling and opposition parties prognosticated, "I believe the fight against official corruption will succeed, but economic recovery will not be smooth sailing." I classified this forecast into the "uneasy" category because in my judgment, success or failure of the Kim Yong-sam reform drive ultimately depends on whether or the economy will recover. Let's hear more about his opinion.

"I like to deal separately with the two goals of the reform drive, namely, the elimination of official corruption and the attainment of economic recovery. President Kim says if only irregularities and corruption are eliminated, will the economy automatically recover. But I do not agree. In Japan's case, Japan always surpassed Korea in terms of economic strength despite the fact that the old LDP government was corrupt. In our case, historically the period in which our economy had the greatest vitality was the 1970's when corruption was rampant, and the Fifth Republic, despite its corruption, held prices in check. In my opinion, the economy will recover only when President Kim, the economic ministers, and the presidential aides lead the van in perfect harmony and the international economic environment improves."

YONHAP TONGSIN reporter Song Hyon-sung expressed the view that he is optimistic about the future of the reform drive because President Kim's determination is strong. He said:

"Until now the new government's stern move of audit and inspection into corruption has entailed economic slowdown and has had some other side effects. Believing that the move of audit and inspection by the new government, like those of the preceding governments, was a passing episode in the early stage of the new government, entrepreneurs hesitated to invest while waiting for the wave of audit and inspection to blow over. But now they will come to realize that the Kim Yong-sam Administration's reform drive is not a passing phenomenon and will try to adapt themselves to the basic framework of the reform efforts. I like to view the reform move currently spearheaded by Yi Kon-hui, head of the Samsung group, in that vein. What is most important is that President Kim's determination is so strong that he will be able to overcome any side effect or impediment. Another factor that affords an optimistic outlook is the fact that the new government does not have to waste time arguing about its legitimacy.

Let me add my own opinion. The time has come when President Kim should make a radical change in the direction of his reform drive. The reason is that he will no longer be able to capture the heights if he dashes

ahead alone with the banner of morality in his hand saying, "I have nothing to fear because I am the legitimate president and I will receive no political contributions."

Strictly speaking, it is hard to deny that what the Kim Yong-sam Administration is touting about as morality has been greatly tarnished in the process of audit and inspection into corruption. It seems that none of the Chongwadae reporters object to the contention that there were sanctuaries in audit and inspection. They said that there is evidence of favoritism shown to personages who were involved in President Kim's political funds in the past. Many of the Chongwadae seem to agree that the wave of audit and inspection has been "targeted investigations."

The trap of arrogance invariably awaits in the road ahead of any political force that advocates morality as the highest value. The consensus of opinion among the Chongwadae reporters is that the president suffers from an absolute dirge of able assistants around him. This is the outcome of the exclusion of able persons by the yardstick of morality.

They say the people who are leading the Kim Yong-sam reform drive are already fallen deep in the pit of arrogance. To bring all forces together by refraining as much as possible from shutting out hostile elements and move forward together toward the common goal is what politics should do. But some has the pessimistic view that the Kim Yong-sam Administration is unmindful of this rudimentary principle of politics.

Chongwadae reporters were sympathetic to the president, the object of their news coverage, of any regime in the past, and in fact wrote their reports standing on his side. Those Chongwadae reporters who covered the former governments, which the Kim Yong-sam Administration brands as illegitimate regimes, stood on their side. This is because they were the ones who observed the presidents at close quarters and tried to understand them.

The same was true with the present Chongwadae reporters. President Kim came to realize that although they did not meet him often, they had much to expect from the first civilian president in 30 years and feel affection for him. President Kim should not again brush aside their bitter pills of advice offered by them, calling them "malicious accusations by the old liners," or "bureaucratic inertia," or "anachronistic ideas," because Chongwadae reporters are on his side.

Whenever someone brought up the question of his ability to govern before he occupied the Chongwadae, President-Elect Kim seemed to redouble his determination to be an outstanding president saying, "You can borrow someone else's brain, although you cannot borrow his health." But Chongwadae reporters, who observe him at the closest quarters, have begun to wonder whose brains President Kim Yong-sam is borrowing in managing state affairs.

These reporters say that President Kim, who stands virtually alone in the wilderness, needs bureaucratic and entrepreneurial brains more urgently than anything else.

parties in the country. That is why, it shows a need for equality and for a search for new suitable principles. The DAB is ready to negotiate at any suitable time and place and in any situation.

[Correspondent] As a DAB general secretary, what would you like to tell the populace?

[Tha] What I would like to request the people from here is to participate as much as possible in obtaining genuine internal peace; to be in a position to differentiate whether its fake or genuine, temporary or long lasting; to exert pressure and help bring about internal peace; and to act as a referee and be righteous.

[Correspondent] Thank you very much, Mr. General Secretary.

Khin Nyunt on Corruption of Revenue Personnel

*BK2411112693 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese
1330 GMT 22 Nov 93*

[Text] Lieutenant General Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC], met with officials of the Internal Revenue Department [IRD] and delivered a guidance speech on revenue matters at the training hall of the Myanmar [Burma] Economic Bank Branch No.1 at Pansodan Street, Yangon [Rangoon] at 0800 this morning.

Khin Nyunt said he would like to urge the IRD officials and defense services officers on special duty [OSD] to carry out their departmental duties and responsibilities honestly and appropriately for the betterment of the country and reminded them to especially refrain from the four wrong courses of action [those dominated by desire, ill will, delusion, and fear] and the three types of gifts [not further identified]. Continuing, the secretary-1 noted that to increase work efficiency responsible personnel should continuously provide the needed training. He then explained employees should always acquire more knowledge and strive to improve their efficiency while acting as honest judges in taxation matters.

Next, Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt urged the OSD of the defense services to ideally perform their duties and responsibilities based on integrity and discipline. He then explained that the IRD officials and the OSD of the defense services should often thoroughly study the whole revenue system and should occasionally present their opinions and suggestions. The secretary-1 also noted that they should organize, educate, and urge the taxpayers to pay their dues correctly in accordance with existing laws. Continuing, Khin Nyunt explained they should strive to fulfill the revenue target of the IRD for the 1993-94 fiscal year and should work with the goal of upholding the dignity of the IRD and the departmental personnel.

Finally, the secretary-1 asked that today's guidance be conveyed fully to the grass-roots level IRD employees, and systematic plans should be made for all the employees to follow them.

The ceremony concluded at 0900.

Agriculture Minister Returns From FAO, ROK

*BK2211153993 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese
1330 GMT 22 Nov 93*

[Text] A Myanmar [Burmese] delegation with Agriculture Minister Lieutenant General Myint Aung as leader and Development of Border Areas and National Races Minister Lt. Gen. Maung Thint as deputy leader arrived back in Yangon [Rangoon] by air this afternoon after attending the 27th Conference of the UN Food and Agricultural Organization [FAO] in Rome, Italy.

On their way to the FAO conference, the Myanmar delegation visited the Republic of Korea [ROK] from 30 October to 4 November at the invitation of Mr. Sin-Haeng Ho, minister for agriculture, forestry, and fisheries.

During their stay in the ROK, the Myanmar delegation exchanged views and held talks with the minister for agriculture, forestry, and fisheries, and responsible personnel, congressmen, and chairmen of economic enterprises on Myanmar's political situation, administration, economic reforms, bilateral relations, and technical cooperation.

The Myanmar delegation also studied ROK rural development activities, agricultural methods, implementation of farm machinery, production of farm products, small-scale farm machinery production, dams, and reservoirs. The delegation also held talks on joint venture production of small-scale farm machinery.

The delegation arrived in Rome, Italy, on 4 November and attended the 27th Conference of the FAO. At the FAO Conference Agriculture Minister Lt. Gen. Myint Aung delivered an address on Myanmar's agriculture, fisheries, livestock breeding, and forestry matters and a speech to honor Mr. (Sun Kyo-chuy), the winner of the 1992 FAO's (B.R. Singh) prize for outstanding technical adviser. (Mr. Sun), a Korean national, is currently a technical adviser in Myanmar. He was awarded the prize for his effective implementation for the preservation of Myanmar's water collection areas, participation in projects for development of Myanmar's border areas, and participation in the development projects for hot climate.

During their stay in Italy, the delegation studied vegetable plantations and held talks on bilateral cooperation between Myanmar and Italy.

22 Insurgents Reportedly Surrender 1-16 Oct

*BK2311142893 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese
1330 GMT 23 Nov 93*

[Text] Members of terrorist insurgent organizations, who have come to realize their wrongdoings, after accepting the work being undertaken and the genuine goodwill of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC],

have been giving up their armed struggle and continuously surrendering with their arms and ammunition at various military camps.

During 1-16 October, 22 terrorist insurgents returned to the legal fold in the southeast military command, the southern military command, and the eastern military command regions. It has been learned that the surrendered terrorist insurgents were warmly welcomed by responsible personnel at various camps.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Mahathir Welcomes Clinton's Remarks on EAEC

*BK2311143993 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia
Network in Malay 1300 GMT 23 Nov 93*

[Text] Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir has welcomed U.S. President Bill Clinton's remarks that the United States is not opposed to the East Asia Economic Caucus, EAEC. The prime minister hopes that the latest development will allow East Asian countries like Japan and South Korea to join EAEC. Dr. Mahathir also expressed his hope that East Asian countries will have no other reasons why they should not join the EAEC. Now it is up to Japan and South Korea to decide. The two countries earlier did not want to join the EAEC because of the U.S. opposition. The prime minister was speaking to reporters in parliament today.

As for the proposal to incorporate the APEC [Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation] into the NAFTA, Dr. Mahathir said the issue must be studied carefully. The EC role in NAFTA and APEC must also be studied first. He believes that the entire world will eventually belong to a common market.

Commentary Hails U.S. Trade Deal With Asia

*BK2411101993 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in
English 0800 GMT 24 Nov 93*

[Station commentary]

[Text] In all appearances, we can assume that the United States is leaning more toward Asia in terms of trade, economic, and trade cooperation. The U.S. has obviously become increasingly aware of the rapidly growing Asia's economy, particularly those of Southeast Asia. The region is recognized as the most dynamic in the world. This perception in the eyes of the U.S. is reflected in a new deal between her and ASEAN in a mutual common partnership. The agreement is to be known as the U.S.-ASEAN Alliance for Mutual Growth or AMG. It is aimed at being a link between the U.S. Government programs and private sector projects with the ASEAN region. The chief purpose of the agreement is to promote greater trade between each other. This can be seen as a wholesome deal.

The cooperation that has been agreed upon will cover areas such as telecommunications, transportation, electric power, and environmental technology, as well as small and medium size enterprises and their financing. The U.S. at present has a trade deficit with a number of its Asian trade partners, including a 12-billion U.S. dollars deficit with ASEAN. The U.S. is attempting to make every effort to reduce its deficit. It also still feels that greater trade with the ASEAN region through AMG will contribute to the enhancement of the economic growth of both sides. This will lead us to the ASEAN proposal for the promotion of the East Asia Economic Caucus, EAEC.

After the negative attitude taken by the previous Bush administration in rejecting the caucus, it is pleasing to hear President Clinton declaring publicly, for the first time that he does not object to EAEC. To quote his words—he is in favor of anything that increases regional cooperation and advances the economic interests of the people so long as it does not close the economic interests of others.

Those who have studied and understood the EAEC concept will know what the caucus is meant to stand for. The EAEC will be a forum within the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, APEC, principally because EAEC's proposed members are also members of APEC. While it aims to serve the needs of its proposed members, it will not duplicate APEC's work program. At the same time the caucus intends to remain independent and not to be dictated to by the more powerful nations within and outside APEC.

China, which is seen as a potential member of EAEC, has been supportive of the idea especially that of its leader's view conveyed to Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed on the latter's visit to Beijing earlier this year. Though Japan has been noncommittal thus far, there are signs that it may not be too long before it gave its approval for the idea, especially since the U.S. appears to have dropped its objection to the caucus.

As for the AMG, many will agree that it is a good idea if it works for mutual benefit. In turn, alliance for mutual growth must be given its due emphasis.

Australian Criticism of APEC Absence Viewed

*BK2311134893 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia
Network in Malay 1300 GMT 23 Nov 93*

[Text] Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir has expressed his regret over Australia's exaggeration of his absence from the recent APEC [Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation] informal meeting in Seattle. The prime minister said he does not understand why Australia is more unhappy than the United States over this matter. His absence at the meeting should have been only a U.S. concern because that country was the one that extended the invitation. However, Australia is now more upset than the United States, and Canberra has condemned the prime minister's absence.

Mahathir said Australia's action is impolite and can be described as not adhering to the typical behavior of Asians. Therefore, Australia's claim that it is an Asian country is meaningless. The prime minister said this in parliament when he was asked to comment on Australian press reports and Prime Minister Paul Keating's criticisms over his absence at the Seattle meeting.

Piracy Cases in Straits of Melaka Decrease

BK2311152693 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 23 Nov 93

[Text] Piracy declined in the Straits of Melaka this year, but smuggling and marine pollution recorded an upsurge. Defense Minister Datuk Sri Najib Tun Razak said the number of piracy cases reported dropped from seven last year to five so far this year.

He was speaking at the Malaysia-Indonesia General Border Committee, GBC, meeting in Kuala Lumpur. Datuk Sri Najib, who is the GBC cochairman, did not quote any statistics for the smuggling and pollution cases.

He also announced that the Sarawak Government had allocated 24 million ringgit to build a checkpoint in [name indistinct] in Sarawak bordering Entekong in West Kalimantan, expected to be completed in 1995. The minister said Malaysia and Indonesia should join hands to step up defense in the interests of security and stability in the region as well as to strengthen ASEAN objectives. The Indonesian co-chairman, Armed Forces Chief General Feisal Tanjung, called for genuine dialogues and effective negotiations at the meeting [words indistinct].

Straits Environment Agreement With Indonesia

BK2411102393 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0600 GMT 24 Nov 93

[Text] Malaysia and Indonesia will jointly safeguard environment of the Straits of Melaka by enhancing coordination of the existing working mechanism. Defense Minister Datuk Sri Najib Tun Razak said this in a joint news conference at the end of the 22d meeting of the Malaysia-Indonesia General Border Committee in Kuala Lumpur. The Indonesian side was represented by the chief of the Armed Forces, General Feisal Tanjung.

Datuk Sri Najib also said both countries will consider creating duty-free zones at border areas as part of a program to stimulate trade exchanges. Both sides noted that there have been an increasing number of smuggling activities and pollution incidents in the straits. Cases of piracy, however, have been reduced significantly. The next General Border Committee meeting of the two countries will be held in Jakarta in November next year.

Singapore

Goh Views 'Impending' Ministerial Changes

BK2411090693 Singapore BUSINESS TIMES in English 23 Nov 93 p 1

[Text] Seattle—Deputy Prime Minister [DPM] Lee Hsien Loong may not necessarily return to the Ministry of Trade and Industry [MTI] when S. Dhanabalan leaves the government at the end of the year, said Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong yesterday. Asked by Singapore and Japanese journalists about impending ministerial movements, Mr. Goh said he will announce ministerial changes next month, adding that promotions can be expected.

The prime minister said he has not decided on the future role of Brigadier General [BG] (Reserve) Lee, who gave up the MTI portfolio after he was diagnosed with cancer last year. He has since recovered. Mr. Goh, who appointed the DPM as his economic adviser earlier this year, said BG Lee will be keeping an overview of MTI.

"But I may not find it necessary to appoint him as minister of trade and industry."

Mr. Goh confirmed that Mr. Dhanabalan, who returned to the cabinet last December to take over MTI, will be leaving at year-end as he has planned.

The prime minister said BG Lee's return to a bigger role in the cabinet must depend on his health. His lymphoma is in complete remission, but he cannot be said to have completely recovered until after five years.

"In the first two years, there is a bit of a chance of a relapse. In his case, frequent travelling could affect his overall well-being. He is not a good traveller. Every time he goes abroad, when he comes back, he takes many days to recover," said Mr. Goh. BG Lee is due to be in Jakarta next week for a joint ministerial committee meeting on Riau. "This trip to Jakarta is a short visit. So we said he could go. He said he should go," said Mr. Goh.

Apart from the impending exit of Mr. Dhanabalan, the cabinet has seen several other departures in the past two years.

Education Minister Tony Tan retired from government at the end of 1991 to become OCBC [Overseas Chinese Banking Corporation] chairman. Environment Minister Ahmad Mattar resigned in June this year, and Dr. Tay Eng Soon, the senior minister of state for education, died in August.

Deputy Prime Minister Ong Teng Cheong left at end-August to become Singapore's first elected president.

And Minister of State for Education Ker Sin Tze, who was appointed in 1991 on a two-year "secondment" from the private sector, is due to return to Liang Court next month.

Cambodia

DPRK Official on 2-Headed Government 'Lethargy'

*BK2211035593 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great
National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian
2330 GMT 21 Nov 93*

[Text] According to well-informed sources, during the recent visit to Cambodia by the prime minister-headed North Korean delegation, a high-ranking Korean official expressed great disappointment at the lethargy of the two-headed government. The same sources revealed that during a working session, a high-ranking North Korean official said to several two-headed government officials: You have no patriotic spirit. Your only concern is traveling abroad. You have never thought of helping improve the people's living conditions.

This high-ranking Korean official added: The Korean Government and people have taken great pains to come here to help Cambodia in agriculture, which is deteriorating with each passing year. However, the Korean side has not been able to meet even a single Cambodian official responsible for agriculture.

According to the well-informed sources, during the Korean delegation's visit to Cambodia, Kong Sam-ol, who is in charge of agriculture, went to the United States to take care of his own wife and children's affairs.

No Ties With South Korea Stance Questioned

*BK2211061393 Phnom Penh REAKSMEI
KAMPUCHEA in Cambodian 13 Nov 93 p 2*

[Political Opinion column: "Which Way Should Cambodia Take?"]

[Text] The week-long official visit by North Korean Premier Kang Song-san to the Kingdom of Cambodia has contributed to the furtherance of friendship between the two countries. Mr. Kang Song-san was the most important guest of honor to attend Cambodia's 40th national independence day celebration.

North Korea, along with the PRC, is considered one of Cambodia's closest friends. Kim Il-song, the famous Communist chieftain of North Korea, is the "god-brother" of His Majesty King Norodom Sihanouk. Kim Il-song and his majesty met for the first time in 1965 during the Bandung conference in Indonesia marking the 10th anniversary of the Nonaligned Movement. They later became best friends and then "godbrothers".

When the king had to leave the country after the 18 March 1970 coup d'etat and after the fall of the regime of Democratic Kampuchea, he lived in "exile" in China and North Korea. Kim Il-song built the "Changsu Palace" as residence for the king of Cambodia in 1974. After His Majesty King Norodom Sihanouk returned

home, the North Korean Government sent eight of its "spartan" specialists to provide protection as the king's bodyguards.

These bodyguards enjoyed all kinds of right when they guarded his majesty. As for the Cambodian bodyguards, they were placed as far away as possible from his majesty, except during special cases.

Many journalists and some foreigners used to poke fun at this arrangement. Nevertheless, we have to admit that these North Korean bodyguards gave the king of Cambodia very tight and effective security. In September 1993 the DPRK placed a special plane at the disposal of our king.

The royal government of Cambodia has on many occasions thanked North Korea, especially for its contribution to the peace process in the country.

However, this close relationship between Cambodia and North Korea is making some observers quite wary. They wonder why Cambodia cannot entertain the same level of ties with South Korea, which is Asia's strongest economic powerhouse after Japan and Taiwan.

A royal government official revealed that trade relations between Cambodia and South Korea are not possible as we have to wait until the latter and North Korea are merged. But it is possible to set up low-level commissions to make trade deals between Cambodia and South Korea. No way has yet been found to explain or maybe no one really cares or dares to say clearly why the two countries cannot have diplomatic relations. However, last year His Majesty King Norodom Sihanouk asked the royal government to establish friendly ties with North Korea only.

The Constitution of the Kingdom of Cambodia stipulates that "the Kingdom of Cambodia is an independent, sovereign, peaceful, permanently neutral, and non-aligned state..." Therefore, what benefit will Cambodia get in continuing not to have diplomatic relations with South Korea?

Cuba Intends To Help Build Sugar Refinery

*BK2311082393 Phnom Penh AKP in French 0418 GMT
23 Nov 93*

[Text] Phnom Penh 23 Nov (AKP)—Cuba intends to help build a sugar refinery in Cambodia, Cuban ambassador to Cambodia F. Turro Gonzales said on Saturday, 20 November.

When he was received in Phnom Penh by Second Prime Minister Hun Sen, the Cuban diplomat said that discussions were underway with Cambodia's Industry Ministry and various international organizations in order to materialize this project.

In the past, he recalled, Cuba had tried to restore Cambodia's sugar refinery, but that project did not take off for lack of funds. Presently, this country is contacting

various international organizations, especially the UN Development Program, and other countries, said the diplomat, adding that Cuba will provide it with technicians.

Hun Sen thanked Cuba for having contributed to Cambodian economic reconstruction efforts. The royal government welcomes Cuba's projected aid in the construction of the sugar refinery, said Hun Sen, stressing that the government recommends that this construction be in a rural area where the land is favorable for the planting of sugar cane.

Sihanouk Gives Instructions to Chea Sim

BK2111051493 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 20 Nov 93

[Message from King Norodom Sihanouk in Beijing to Chea Sim, chairman of the National Assembly and of the Cambodian People's Party; dated 19 November—read by announcer]

[Text] His Majesty Norodom Sihanouk, king of the Kingdom of Cambodia [KOC], to Samdech Chea Sim, chairman of the National Assembly and of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP], through His Excellency [H.E.] State Minister Keo Put-reaksmei, royal office in Phnom Penh:

Beloved and most highly considered Samdech: I have received your letter dated 18 November 1993 concerning the meeting of the National Assembly under the chairmanship of H.E. Loy Simchheang, first vice chairman of the National Assembly, who is also acting National Assembly chairman; the promulgation of the law concerning the National Assembly's budget for 1994; and receiving the credentials from his excellency the new ambassador of the Kingdom of Thailand.

I would like to express very profound thanks to you for the above information. Samdech, on my behalf and in your role as acting head of state of the KOC, please sign and promulgate the law on the National Assembly's budget for 1994 once the National Assembly has approved it, and also receive the credentials of his excellency the ambassador of the Kingdom of Thailand, other ambassadors, and other new ambassadors.

Samdech, your wife, and all your colleagues in the CPP and the noble National Assembly, please accept most profound and warmest affection from me and the queen.

Beijing 19 November 1993
[Signed] Norodom Sihanouk

Minister: Door Still Open for Khmer Rouge Talk

BK2311133093 Phnom Penh AKP in English 0951 GMT 23 Nov 93

[Text] Phnom Penh AKP November 23—The Royal Government of Cambodia still keeps the door open for

the Khmer Rouge to talk for national reconciliation. Deputy Prime Minister Norodom Sirivut said during his talks in Phnom Penh Monday, 22 November, with Tom Kitt, Irish minister of state at the Department of Foreign Affairs.

Tom Kitt is the first minister of Ireland, which does not have diplomatic relations with the Kingdom of Cambodia, to have a four-day official visit here.

Norodom Sirivut told his guest about recent Constitution, the inclusion of factions' army into the national armed force and the resolution dealing with Khmer Rouge for real national reconciliation without division of the country.

He also spoke of Cambodian difficulties after two decades of war, especially the country's relations with international financial institutions.

He expressed thanks to the government of Ireland for its assistance to the Cambodian peace process via UNTAC [United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia].

In reply, Tom Kitt said his delegation had impressions on the development in Cambodia, particularly the activities of social economics and business.

Affirming Irish continuous cooperation with and assistance to Cambodia, Kitt said Ireland was keen to provide aid to Cambodia and ready to provide personnel such as teachers and assistance in public administration.

He said Ireland had funded the restoration of two generators in Phnom Penh woefully short of energy.

The generators would be handed over to the Cambodian Government Tuesday afternoon before Kitt leaves for Vietnam on Wednesday for a visit there.

Indonesia

Minister: Malaysia Dispute 'Not a Military One'

BK2411085493 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0000 GMT 24 Nov 93

[Text] The Indonesian Armed Forces [ABRI] and the Royal Malaysian Armed Forces believe that the Sipadan and Ligitan Islands issue is not a military one and both sides have agreed to use diplomatic means to solve the issue of the two disputed islands. Malaysian Defense Minister Najib Tun Razak said this at a news conference after the 22d meeting of General Border Committee [GBC] in Kuala Lumpur.

Speaking on the same occasion, ABRI Commander General Feisal Tanjung said the GBC meeting did not discuss the Sipadan and Ligitan Islands issue because it is already being handled by a special committee under the jurisdiction of the Foreign Affairs Ministries of both countries. The two countries have agreed to hold talks on the two small islands located on the border between East Kalimantan and Malaysia's Sabah state since 1991.

Dutch Military Chief Calls on Counterpart

BK2311092393 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0736 GMT 23 Nov 93

[Text] Jakarta, 23 November (OANA/ANTARA)—Dutch Armed Forces Chief Gen. [General] Van der Vlis paid a call on his Indonesian counterpart Gen. Feisal Tanjung here Monday, the Indonesia Armed forces (ABRI) Information Center said. The center further said that Gen. Van der Vlis and Gen. Tanjung discussed among others cooperation programs between Indonesia and the Netherlands, especially between their armed forces.

During the meeting, Gen. Tanjung was accompanied by Army Chief Gen. Wismoyo Arismunandar, Navy Chief Vice Adm. [Admiral] Tanto Kuswanto, Air Force Chief Air Marshal Rilo Pambudi, and Chief of the Indonesian Police Lt. Gen. (Pol) [Police] Banurusman.

Gen. Van der Vlis was flanked by Dutch Ambassador to Indonesia Robert Dudley van Roijen and Defense Attache Col. [Colonel] Jan Midiema.

Gen. Van der Vlis's visit is scheduled to last until Nov. [date indistinct] during which he will also visit Bandung, Yogyakarta, Magelang, Surabaya, and Bali.

While in Jakarta, he also met Defense Minister Edi Sudrajat and visited the Kalibata Heroes Cemetery.

Warships Purchased From Germany Arrive

BK2211034393 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0000 GMT 22 Nov 93

[Text] Three Indonesian warships of the Corvette class and tank carriers purchased from Germany arrived yesterday at the Sabang Navy Port in Aceh.

Commandant of the Sabang Navy Port, Lieutenant-Colonel (Navy), Ismi Idris, clarified in Jakarta that the warships will remain at the Sabang port for three days before sailing for Jakarta.

The warships, which arrived from Germany, are part of a consignment of warships purchased by the Indonesian Government from the former East German authorities.

Rescheduling Foreign Debt Payment Said 'Drastic'

BK2011082193 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 10 Nov 93 p 4

[Text] The suggestion from the House Budgetary Commission that the Indonesian Government reschedule its foreign debts to reduce the burden of the state budget seems strange, especially now when the fundamentals of the economy have never been so sound and strong. Moreover, there are no external pressures which could make such a drastic, unpopular move necessary.

Actually, the issue is not new at all. Such a recommendation has often been floated by a number of private-sector economists, among others, but it has always been rejected outright by the government.

The reason is quite obvious. As explained by State Minister for Development Planning Ginanjar Kartasasmita to the commission on Monday, the costs of such a measure would be so great that the bottom line of any debt rescheduling is quite negative. The mere intention to negotiate debt rescheduling would immediately set off a chain of damaging repercussions within the whole of the economy, with the confidence of both official and private creditors and foreign investors in the country plunging to zero. And all of this would occur even before such negotiations, which usually take a few years, could end successfully. Then even though such negotiations succeed in rescheduling the repayment and servicing of debts, the country concerned is usually left with a formidable task of regaining the confidence of foreign creditors and investors.

Therefore, it makes a lot of sense if the government, which itself had its share of the painful process of negotiating for debt rescheduling in the late 1960s, has always gone all out to avoid the need for such a bitter move. The result is indeed an impressive record which has earned Indonesia international recognition as a paragon of good debtors among the developing countries. But this achievement obviously also requires great sacrifices on the part of the people.

In fact, it is these sacrifices which come into our mind if we read further into the commission's suggestions. Official foreign debt service burdens have now reached such a high proportion that they take up to 45 percent of the total routine budget of the government. As more new debts become mature for installment payments every year, the burden will increase steadily into the next few years.

The painful consequence is that, despite the marked annual increase in tax receipts, the government is not able to significantly raise the salaries of the estimated four million civil servants and Armed Forces members. In fact, any increases in the past have been rendered meaningless by inflation. This is, indeed, regrettable because Indonesia's civil service salaries are among the lowest in the world.

The poor and, sometimes inhumanely low, civil service pay has of late once again become a heated issue following businessmen's complaints about malfeasance and numerous other blatant forms of corruption which have been raising the invisible costs of doing business in the country. The poor enforcement of various reform measures to improve the efficiency of the economy has been blamed mainly on corrupt officials. We are, of course, aware that although poor pay often drives civil servants to extort bribes, higher wages will not stop corruption. But we still believe that the most blatant forms of

corruption could be minimized if the civil servants were paid more comfortable salaries.

We fully share the concern of the House over the heavy debt service burden which, we think, is one of the reasons why the civil service pay cannot be raised significantly. But we also understand the government's dilemma. The government has to borrow overseas to supplement its savings for financing infrastructure development because borrowing from domestic sources would crowd out the private sector. Nonetheless, official borrowings might be reduced if the government withdrew from the areas that can be handled by the private sector. Fewer new debts will eventually reduce the debt service burden and will consequently enable the government to allocate a greater portion of its routine budget for its personnel.

Laos

Article Views Relations With Cambodia

BK2311140393 Vientiane PASASON in Lao 16 Nov 93 p 3

[Article by Akkhavan: "The new period in the development of friendly relations between Laos and Cambodia"]

[Text] The time-honored traditional relations of friendship, solidarity, and fraternal cooperation between the Lao and Cambodian peoples have been handed down for generations since ancient times. These relations are a precious heritage from our ancestors. Therefore, it is the duty of the Lao and Cambodian peoples to make mutual contributions to the best of their ability and take firm steps—conforming with the call of the new period—to develop this heritage correctly. This will further strengthen these traditional relations in the interests of the two peoples, whose traditions, customs, and cultures are very similar. More importantly, the Lao and Cambodian peoples are both Buddhist.

Examining the histories and geographies of both countries, one can see that Laos and Cambodia are good neighbors that share a long common border. Our good neighborly and brotherly ties have been proven time and again. The Lao and Cambodian peoples have shared weal and woe in their history of struggling together against both colonialism and neocolonialism for national liberation. During difficult times, the Lao and Cambodian peoples have helped and supported each another in the fight for national independence. The Lao party, government, and people will remember the visit to the stronghold of the Lao revolution by their majesties King Norodom Sihanouk and Queen Monique. That was an event of historic significance in the fine relations between Laos and Cambodia.

The exchange of official visits by delegations at various levels—from the central level down to localities and production establishments—and between the two peoples have become more frequent with each passing day.

The more frequent the exchange of these visits becomes, the broader the fraternal relations between the Lao and Cambodian peoples grow in all fields.

In July, a high-level delegation from the Provisional National Government of Cambodia, headed by Prince Krom Luong Norodom Ranariddh and His Excellency [H.E.] Hun Sen, cochairmen of this government, paid an official friendship visit to Laos. During the visit, the Lao and Cambodian sides held amicable talks that stressed new steps in the development of the time-honored traditional relations between Laos and Cambodia.

To continue promoting and enhancing the advancement of fraternal and friendly relations between the Lao and Cambodian peoples, in early November a high-level delegation from our government, headed by H.E. Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon, paid an official friendship visit to the Royal Kingdom of Cambodia at the invitation of First Prime Minister Prince Krom Luong Norodom Ranariddh and Second Prime Minister H.E. Hun Sen of the Royal Kingdom of Cambodia. During the visit, high-level delegations from the two sides held talks to exchange views on various issues of mutual interest, with a view to continually promoting and further strengthening the long-standing friendly relations, fraternal solidarity, and fine traditional cooperation between the Lao and Cambodian peoples.

The new steps in the development of fraternal and friendly relations between the governments and peoples of Laos and Cambodia were clearly stated in the Lao-Cambodian joint communique issued in July 1993, the Lao-Cambodian joint communique dated 7 November 1993, and the agreement on cooperation in the economic, scientific, technical, and cultural fields signed on 7 November 1993.

The Lao and Cambodian peoples, firmly adhering to the spirit of these important documents and steadfastly standing by their respective governments, are ready to contribute all their physical strength and wisdom to translate the spirit of these documents into reality and develop closer cooperation with all the countries in the region. This is aimed at turning Southeast Asia into a zone of genuine peace, friendship, and cooperation.

Cooperation Discussed With Thai Delegation

BK2311081493 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 23 Nov 93

[Text] Thailand is likely to provide a technical and economic assistance worth 80 million to Laos during the current fiscal year.

A Thai delegation led by Director General of the Department of Technical and Economic Cooperation Phichet Sunthonphiphit is now on a visit to Laos for a Thai-Lao technical and economic cooperation meeting during 22 and 25 November.

The meeting discusses cooperation projects particularly on Thai aid for Laos in the 1994 fiscal year. Laos has asked Thailand for long-term scholarship at the tertiary education level, short-term training, study tours, medical equipment, and exchange of academics between the two countries.

The Thai Government began to attach greater importance to the Thai aid program to neighboring countries in the 1992 fiscal year. The program will strengthen relations between Thailand and her neighbors.

'Instruction' Issued on National Day Occasion

BK231115993 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 23 Nov 93

[“Instruction” issued by the Prime Minister’s Office in Vientiane on 15 November]

[Text] The 18th anniversary of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic [LPDR]—from 2 December 1975 to 2 December 1993—will be observed at a time when the situation in our country is improving in many fields. For example, our economy is growing gradually. The correct policy of our party and state in broadening relations with foreign countries has been effectively implemented. Our country continues to enjoy stability. The multiethnic Lao people across the country are actively building the economy. They are developing our culture and society and making them thrive. Their material and spiritual lives are being gradually consolidated.

Complying with the spirit of the resolution adopted by the seventh plenary session of the fifth party Central Committee—to promote these trends relentlessly and regularly and make them buoyant and vigorous—on the occasion of the 2 December 1993 National Day, the Prime Minister’s Office instructs all localities and services to pay attention to performing the following tasks:

1. All localities and services must organize simple celebrations of this event suitable to the socioeconomic conditions of the country and each locality. Offices, organizations, and grass-roots units should be regarded as key centers. At the central level, Vientiane Municipality has been assigned to take the initiative in organizing an appropriate celebration.

2. All localities and services must pay attention to maintaining national defense and public security in all offices, organizations, and localities. They should maintain a high sense of vigilance to thwart any subversive act our enemies and bad elements may carry out through cunning tricks to distort our ideology and create disturbances among the people. At the same time, we must pay attention to educating cadres and the people to understand clearly our enemies’ scheme of peaceful changes. We must mobilize them to develop a patriotic spirit and love for the new regime, as well as a sense of enthusiasm in vigorously carrying out the tasks of defending the country and making it rich and strong.

3. We must pay attention to promoting production; for example, by harvesting main season rice in a timely manner and preparing to farm dry season rice and grow other crops to improve living conditions gradually.

4. We must step up the education of cadres, party members, combatants, state employees, and the multiethnic Lao people so that they appreciate and understand clearly the Lao people’s tradition of revolutionary heroism and have faith in the party’s leadership.

5. We must promote professional and amateur artistic, literary, sports, and acrobatic movements; perform arts and culture mass work; promote the nation’s fine culture and sports; and fight all forms of decadent culture.

6. Slogans for mass mobilization:

- a. Long live the spirit of the 2 December National Day!
- b. Long live the majestic and noble Lao People’s Revolutionary Party!
- c. Long live the LPDR!
- d. Pay attention to fulfilling the 1993-94 socioeconomic plan successfully!

Upon receipt of this instruction, all ministries, ministerial-level organizations under the central government, Vientiane Municipality, and all provinces are instructed to execute it effectively. After the celebrations are over, their outcome must be reported to the Prime Minister’s Office by the end of December at the latest.

Conference of Party Units Opens 22 Nov

BK2211150393 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 22 Nov 93

[Text] The nationwide conference of representatives of party units was officially opened in Vientiane this morning under the chairmanship of Thongsing Thammavong, Political Bureau member and chief of the Organization Board of the party Central Committee.

Participating in the conference were members of the party Central Committee; secretaries of the party committees of the ministries, departments, factories, schools, hospitals, enterprises, and more than 190 representatives of party units from many districts, villages, and production establishments from 16 provinces, municipalities, and (?special zones) throughout the country.

At the opening ceremony, Thongsing Thammavong, chairman of the conference, addressed the gathering and presented a political report to the conference in which he discussed the outcome of the party building work in the past and certain good and weak points and remaining problems that must be resolved in the future. After that, the participants began to study the political report and exchanged views with one another in a frank manner.

The conference will be convened for five days.

Philippines

Kidnappers of U.S. Missionary Issue Demands

BK2311091193 Quezon City GMA-7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog 0930 GMT 22 Nov 93

[Text] The kidnappers of American linguist Charles Walton have issued their demands. The demands were sent to Sulu Congressman Bensaudi Tulawie earlier today. These were: a) the banning of foreign fishing vessels in Mindanao waters, b) a stop to the translation of the Koran and other dialects by foreigners, and c) the witnessing of agreements reached on these demands by representatives from the Organization of Islamic Conference and members of the diplomatic community.

Meanwhile, Vice President Joseph Estrada said that he will order police and military operations if Walton is not released within three days.

The government continues to negotiate with the kidnappers of U.S. linguist Charles Walton. Walton was abducted by armed men from his house in Sulu last 14 November. Earlier, Estrada had said that there was a great possibility that Walton would be released in due time. However, Interior Secretary Raphael Alunan said that this might not occur when President Fidel Ramos meets with U.S. President Bill Clinton.

[Begin Alunan recording in progress in English] ... as you know we have imposed a news embargo for the time being so as not to prejudice the negotiations in the field. But the most important thing is that the hostage is alive, negotiations are ongoing, and we're hopeful. [end recording]

In the meantime, Executive Secretary Teofisto Guingona said that so far they have not received special instructions from the president, aside from the order for them to do everything possible to free the kidnap victim.

[Begin recording in progress in English] [Guingona] ... but there is no really special attention; we do all we can for anyone who is the victim of such an act of kidnapping.

[Unidentified correspondent] Are there any specific instructions from the president to produce Walton before his talks with Clinton?

[Guingona] No specific instruction, it's just the same general directive: Get him. Get the perpetrators. Mete out justice. [end recording]
servicemen Killers

BK2411064493 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 22 Nov 93 p 15

[By Paul N. Villegas]

[Text] The Philippine Government is under no obligation to prosecute the killers of United States servicemen who were killed outside the former U.S. military facilities in Clark Air Base three years ago.

Well-placed sources from the Department of Foreign Affairs defended government's amnesty policy and said Washington cannot invoke Article 15 of the 1947 Military Bases Agreement [MBA] because the incident—the killing of U.S. Air Force enlisted men James C. Green and John H. Raven by members of the New People's Army [NPA] in May 1990—happened "outside the bases and therefore not within the purview" of the 1947 MBA Security Legislation.

This was the position formulated by the DFA's office of legal affairs following a recent meeting between officials of the Philippine Government and the U.S. State Department in Washington, D.C.

Sources disclosed that during the said meeting, State Department officials argued that "failure of the Philippine Government to prosecute and punish (killers of the U.S. servicemen) ... will be a violation of Article 15 of the 1947 MBA, which gives rise" to an obligation on the part of government to "punish those who harm U.S. personnel."

The State Department added that granting amnesty to the killers would also run counter to the entire fabric of government's security obligations viewed broadly.

It also said that such matter "is a sensitive issue for the American intelligence community."

During the meeting, however, both sides agreed that the U.S. servicemen cannot be technically considered as "internationally protected persons."

In May 1990, the NPA claimed responsibility for the killing of the two U.S. airmen outside the Holiday Lodge in Samsonville Subdivision, two kilometers from the gate of the former Clark Air Base. The two, however, were not stationed at Clark but were among 280 airmen and support personnel assigned to the 8th Aircraft Generation Squadron at Kun San Air base in South Korea.

The killing of the two airmen was part of a series of killings conducted by the NPA to disrupt the R.P. [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. bases negotiations at that time. In April 1989, communist guerrillas also gunned down U.S. Army Col. James Rowe, a heavily decorated Vietnam War hero, while he was on his way to work at the Joint U.S. Military Assistance Group in Quezon City.

According to Article 15 of the MBA, also known as the Security Legislation, the Philippines "agrees to take such steps as may from time to time be agreed to be necessary with a view to the enactment of legislation to insure the adequate security and protection of the United States bases, equipment and other property ... and the punishment of persons who may contravene such legislation."

The article further states that "... appropriate authorities of the two governments will also consult from time to time in order to insure that laws and regulations of the

Philippines and the United States in relation to such matter shall, so far as may be possible, be uniform in character."

Sources said such provision "clearly spells out a kind of noncommittal stance of the Philippines showing a willingness to come to the negotiating table with the Americans...for the security of the U.S. military bases."

They added that "this vaguely worded commitment simply reflects the recognition by both the Philippines and the U.S. of life's reality that the U.S. is best qualified to protect its bases."

Further, records show that the provisions of Article 15 has never been implemented. "There is no record to show that the Philippines and the U.S. have indeed agreed to take the necessary steps for the enactment of such security legislation" or if the article itself has ever been enacted, sources said.

Thus, the State Department's claim that failure on the part of government to prosecute the killers of the U.S. servicemen is a violation of the aforementioned article, "has no leg to stand on. And since this article has never been operative, it cannot be invoked," the sources argued.

The sources explained that the provisions of the article only cover the U.S. bases itself and not the area outside them. This means the killing of the servicemen is not within the purview of the Security Legislation. "Since the incident happened outside the bases, the operative law is the local law and not the MBA," they added.

On the issue of granting amnesty to the killers of the servicemen, sources said the "general pardon to rebels for their treason and other high political offenses is a political act exercised by the president in the interest of the state."

As one legal expert, who requested anonymity, put it: "The question of security of U.S. bases has become academic in view of the abrogation of the MBA."

BOI Views Expectations for Results of MIGA

*BK221111593 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English
19 Nov 93 p 13*

[By Gen Soledad]

[Text] The Board of Investments (BOI) expects American investors to follow through on their initial show of interest in the Philippines with the Senate's ratification of the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA) convention.

The MIGA which is an affiliate of the World Bank and the International Finance Corp. (IFC) issues guarantees to foreign businessmen as a hedge against possible

investment risks in the host country like currency conversion and transfers, expropriation, civil disturbance, contract repudiation by the host government, and even political risk.

The MIGA earlier said it had received a lot of inquiries from American firms interested in investing in the Philippines. These inquiries, however, did not translate into actual investments since American firms wanted the protection given by the MIGA.

The Philippines had inked the convention establishing the MIGA in September 1986 but the Senate only ratified the agreement last week as a sendoff package for the president on his visit to the United States.

BOI officials said the ratification of the MIGA is sure to bring in actual investments next year.

After the ratification, the Philippines will have to pay for an initial subscription of MIGA shares. The Philippines is allotted a total of 484 shares worth \$5.24 million under the MIGA. The country, however, has to immediately pay for an initial subscription of \$1.05 million worth of shares.

As of end-1992, MIGA had 116 signatory countries. For the same period MIGA issued insurance coverage amounting to \$313 million for projects with a total cost of \$1 billion. The ratification of the MIGA was one of the economic reform measures presented by Mr. Ramos during his ongoing visit to the U.S. as a come-on to potential American investors.

The United States is now the country's second largest source of foreign capital. Last year, American investors pumped in P1.669 billion [Philippine pesos] worth of investments, coming after Japan which invested P1.846 billion.

Breakaway Group Vows To Purge CPLA Chief

*BK2211082793 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER in English 18 Nov 93 p 18*

[By Alfredo Dizon]

[Text] Baguio City—Former rebel priest Conrado Balweg, beleaguered chief of the Cordillera People's Liberation Army [CPLA], has been accused by a breakaway CPLA group of having "committed political opportunism, illegal logging, squatting, promiscuity and gambling."

In a memorandum to President Ramos, the breakaway CPLA and the Cordillera Bodong Administration (CBAd) said that "Balweg's moral decadence and treasure-hunting activities have dissipated the finances of the CPLA."

"We will purge Balweg and his negative influences and restore the credibility of the CPLA and the CBAd," the memorandum said.

The memorandum was signed by Abrino Aydinan, former chairman of the Cordillera Regional Consultative Commission and now acting chairman of the CPLA-CBAAd [Cordillera People's Liberation Army- Cordillera Bodong Administration] Council of Leaders; Mailed Molina, former political officer of the New People's Army and now mayor of Bucloc, Abra; and Joel Obar, chief executive of CBAAd.

Other signatories included Augustus Saboy, CBAAd executive secretary and chief of the Philippines News Agency bureau in the Cordillera; Eugenio Insigne, presidential nominee for the indigenous cultural communities sectoral representative in Congress; Maximo Garming, director of the Cordillera Executive Board; Dr. Cameron Odsey, member of the Cordillera negotiating panel during the 1987 peace talks; and Andres Aggulun, second vice chairman of the CBAAd- CPLA Council.

"Balweg's propensity for grandstanding has made the CPLA the laughing stock of the Cordillera," they said.

The breakaway CPLA also asked the President to:

- Define the status of the CBAAd Commission in the Cordillera Executive Board as a local government unit in the Cordillera with authority to administer development funds.
- Exhaust all possibilities in the realization of a Cordillera Autonomous Region as provided for in Executive Order 220 before any organic act is drafted and presented in a referendum.

Executive Order 220 created the Cordillera Administrative Region as a transitory body prior to a Cordillera Autonomous Region.

- Include the CPLA/CBAAd in the formulation and implementation of government policy on Cordillera autonomy.

CPLA Chief Denounces Breakaway Group

BK2411055793 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 22 Nov 93 p 14

[Text] Former rebel priest and beleaguered chief of the Cordillera People's Liberation Army [CPLA] Conrado Balweg has denied the accusations made against him by a breakaway CPLA group and stated that "there is no reorganization within the CPLA."

Balweg stressed that the breakaway group led by Joel Obar, who now claims to replace him as the new chief executive of the Cordillera Bodong Administration (CBAAd), "has no mass base."

The INQUIRER wrote Thursday that the breakaway group, in a memorandum submitted to President Ramos, accused Balweg of having "committed political opportunism, illegal logging, squatting, promiscuity, and gambling."

They said "Balweg's moral decadence and treasure-hunting activities have dissipated the finances of the CPLA."

The group vowed to "purge Balweg and his negative influences and restore the credibility of the CPLA and the CBAAd."

Balweg, however, said he is "innocent of those things" and that only his CBAAd is recognized by President Ramos. The splinter group, Balweg added, is only trying to cover up its violations.

In an interview with the INQUIRER Friday night, Balweg said that the breakaway group, composed of Obar, Mailed Molina, Abrino Aydinan and five other signatories, are all expelled members of the CPLA, adding that Aydinan is particularly "hungry for power."

The breakaway group intends to "get the slot intended for the CBAAd in the body to be created to help draft a new organic act for the Cordillera Autonomous Region," said CBAAd Secretary General Gabino Ganggangan in a letter to the INQUIRER.

Balweg also brushed aside reports that his CPLA has turned into a private army and dared anybody to prove this.

He urged Congress to speed up the drafting and enactment of a bill ordering the formation of a committee to re-draft an organic act that will pave way for the autonomy of the Cordillera region.

"We want autonomy. We want the fundamental rights and traditions of all Cordillera tribes to be an organic part of the Philippine Constitution," Balweg said.

Divided Peasant Movement Holds Two Meetings

BK2311094793 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 22 Nov 93 p 7

[Text] The rift in the country's most militant peasant organization, the Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas [KMP] [Peasants Movement of the Philippines], is expected to heat up further as two factions hold separate national congresses this week.

The camp of Rafael Mariano, Jaime Tadeo's vice chairman who served as acting head when Tadeo was in prison, opened its four-day congress at the Phil-Am Homes in Quezon City yesterday afternoon.

Tadeo's group, on the other hand, is expected to call its meeting later in the week.

The squabble started last July following the split in the leftist underground movement. It became irreconcilable after Mariano's group filed estafa [fraud] charges against Tadeo.

The charges may bring Tadeo, who is out on parole, back in prison to serve the remaining years of his sentence. He

was convicted of estafa in 1990 although human rights groups viewed it a political move by the government to silence the militant leader.

Tadeo, along with a few other ranking KMP officials, was also expelled by Mariano's camp but Tadeo defied the move.

Now both groups are claiming leadership of the peasant organization.

Mariano said some 200 peasant leaders from 59 provinces are attending the congress.

He told the INQUIRER last night the congress is intended to "consolidate" his group's ranks and dispel moves by "reformists" and "collaborationists" to destroy the KMP.

He said he sent invitations for the Tadeo camp to attend but received no response.

The national congress, Mariano said, is expected to "ratify" the national council's decision to expel Tadeo and a few others, but added they may reconsider their stand if Tadeo and his group show up and appeal their case before the congress.

ARMM To Abide by Government-MNLF Agreement

BK2411114593 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 23 Nov 93 p B-15

[By A. Macabalang]

[Text] Cotabato City—Officials of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) have vowed to abide by any agreement the government and the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) may reach in their peace negotiations, but they asked that the ARMM leadership issue be resolved through elections.

The officials were reacting to reports that the outcome of the national government-MNLF negotiations may expand the ARMM area, abridge their three-year term of office and place the leadership of an expanded ARMM government under the Nur Misuari-led Muslim rebel group.

"Well, expansion would really be strengthening the region but in so far as the leadership is concerned, it should be determined by an election. The mandate of the people is always paramount," ARMM Gov. Lininding Pangandaman said in an interview here.

Meanwhile, Chief Supt. Mangigin Magomnang, PNP [Philippine National Police] director for ARMM, has endorsed the inclusion of the 5,000-strong Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) in the national government-MNLF talks.

"The MILF should be included in the peace talks because it is still a potent force to reckon with. They (MILF members) must not be ignored," Magomnang explained.

In the ARMM areas alone, Magomnang said, the MILF maintains 3,359 combatants who possess 5,269 assorted firearms.

Pangandaman shared Magomnang's advocacy, saying the participation of other rebel groups and sectors in the peace process will enhance a "comprehensive solution" to the Moro rebellion.

In the recent first round of talks in Indonesia, both the MNLF and government panels led by Misuari and former Ambassador Manuel Yan, respectively, signed an accord for the cessation of hostilities in Mindanao and created "mixed committees" to discuss further the open-ended provisions of the 1976 Tripoli Agreement.

Roundup of Rebel Activities for 13-19 Nov

BK2311073693

[Editorial Report] The following is a roundup of reports of Philippine rebel activities from Philippine media monitored by Bangkok Bureau between 13-19 November. Source information is given in parentheses at the end of each item.

13-14 November

No fileworthy items monitored.

15 November

Three army soldiers and two civilians were killed when an Army jeep and a passenger jeepney were ambushed by New People's Army [NPA] rebels last Sunday in Daraga, Albay. (Quezon City MALAYA 15 Nov p 1)

16 November

Six NPA rebels were killed by government troops during an encounter in a village in Camarines Norte. Five more NPA rebels were wounded in said encounter. According to military reports, two of those killed were identified as Ka [Comrade] Rublen and Ka Rey. (Quezon City PTV-4 Television Network 160500)

17 November

Two NPA rebels died and five were seriously wounded during separate encounters with government troops in the Bicol region. The two rebels were killed when the Army's Alpha Company attacked an NPA Camp in Basud, Camarines Norte, while the five rebels were hit when the military invaded their camp in the jungles of Labu, Camarines Sur. There were no reported casualties from the government side. (Quezon City PTV-4 Television Network 170500)

Israel Valle, a commander of the Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF] and his group surrendered to police

authorities in Isulan, Sultan Kudarat with 22 firearms. (Manila MANILA BULLETIN p 1)

18 November

Fourteen MNLF rebels surrendered to military authorities to avail themselves of the government's amnesty program. The surrender followed after a day's negotiation in a village in Sultan Kudarat. Those who surrendered said that poor leadership, unequal and inhuman treatment committed against them by their commander prompted their surrender. They yielded one .30 caliber machine gun and one 7.62 mm caliber M60 high-powered machine gun. (Manila MANILA BULLETIN p B-10)

19 November

No fileworthy items monitored.

Thailand

Prime Minister Comments on APEC Meeting

BK2411051993 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0000 GMT 24 Nov 93

[Text] Prime Minister Chuan Likphai and his delegation returned to Bangkok at about 2400 yesterday after attending the meeting of APEC [Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation] leaders in Seattle. The meeting was hosted by President Bill Clinton. The meeting was historic in that it was the first time that leaders of 15 countries attended. A Public Relations Department correspondent filed the following report:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] Prime Minister Chuan Likphai held a news conference immediately after his arrival at Bangkok International Airport. On the success of the APEC summit, the prime minister said the meeting participants agreed that a free trade economic system is essential for the Asia-Pacific region and that the GATT negotiations, which have dragged on for years, should be concluded by 25 December in the interests of world trade.

[Chuan] Basically, the agreement took into account geographic differences of the APEC countries and particularly their unequal economic status. Therefore, the various fields of cooperation will take into consideration these differences. For this reason, there were suggestions that rich countries give assistance in human resources development, information, and technology to the developing countries so that they can proceed at the same pace as the developing countries.

The proposal for joint discussions of finance ministers of the APEC countries was accepted. This will start with a broad-scope meeting of the finance ministers in early 1994. This is because there is a desire to avoid making it a forum for bargaining. The desire is to make APEC a community of brotherly neighbors whose trade and investment system is open. Characteristically, the forum

is not used for extracting bargains, but for consultations. As a result, the objective of the finance ministers meeting will be to discuss trade problems.

Another proposal concerns the private sector. Because the private sector plays the most important role in promoting free trade, the private sector from every country will meet as well.

[Correspondent] On meetings with important leaders of countries in this region, including the U.S. and Chinese presidents and the Chinese and Canadian prime ministers, the prime minister said:

[Chuan] There were discussions about relations with those countries. In particular, with the United States there were discussions about good relations and obstacles to bilateral trade. More discussions at official levels will follow.

With Japan, I thanked the Japanese prime minister for buying Thai rice. I asked that Japan give adequate consideration to Thailand if it has to import rice in the future. I understand that this is a sensitive issue in Japan.

With the Canadian prime minister, we talked about multiple Canadian assistance to Thailand in the past. The Canadian prime minister noted modern technologies which Canada is willing to provide.

Regarding Australia, we talked about the bridge which will be completed in April 1994 and about greater Australian involvement in Asian countries.

With China, the Chinese leader spoke with me about my latest visit to China which resulted in contracts in the private sector. Following up is in process on these contracts as well as on agreements between the Thai and Chinese Governments. The Chinese prime minister told me that he wanted me to inform the king and queen that he wanted to invite them to visit his country.

I paid a courtesy call on the Indonesian president although this was not on the original schedule. We talked about tripartite cooperation on developing southern Thailand, northern Malaysia, and Indonesia which is now under study by the Asian Development Bank. There were also general discussions in light of Indonesia's intent to host an APEC meeting next year. On this issue, the Seattle meeting was in favor of using a similar summit meeting format that was used in the United States this year.

[Correspondent] On what Thailand could gain from the APEC summit and ministerial meetings, the prime minister said there was much that Thailand could gain, particularly in trade and economic cooperation and technology transfer.

[Chuan] We are part of the Asia-Pacific region, whose population of 20 billion is at least 40 percent of the world's population. It is unavoidable that the current and future economic system will be interdependent. If we want to expand our market in the region, the trade

system must not be protectionist because we will not be able to cope with a highly protectionist system. At the same time, we have limitations on our part if the market is to be opened suddenly. A NAFTA agreement was reached while I was on the trip. The agreement deals with complete abolition, not reduction, of tariffs. In AFTA [ASEAN Free Trade Area] there are mere tariff reductions. In our system we still collect tariffs. Our main revenue is from customs duties, not trade taxes like the Value Added Taxes which started a little over a year ago. Without customs duties our country would be without revenue. You will note that I said to the [words indistinct] at the meeting that unlike developed countries, developing countries are not ready and must proceed gradually. Most countries, particularly ASEAN countries, agreed with this idea—we have limitations. However, we benefit from the free trade system. We have for a long time. It is correct to promote free trade throughout the world. In particular, if a single system, the GATT system, is used it will be very beneficial. Therefore, I was the one who suggested that GATT be the standard system and that the GATT negotiations be finalized as soon as possible. In any event, even if negotiations are not finalized, APEC should not be anything more special than GATT, which should be regarded as the centerpiece. In this way the trade system in this region will not be anything special. We see that trade protectionist activities are taking place in various parts of the world. Therefore, APEC should not become a body that creates a new obstacle to world trade.

The market in this region is the biggest and its buying power continues to grow because its economic growth is greater than in other regions. Therefore, although we produce the same products as the other countries in the region our contacts with them will be beneficial as long as we improve the quality of our products. We will also benefit from the proposal to send specialists to assist developing countries. We know that various groupings that have been formed will be our obstacles in the future. Therefore, a relatively big grouping that shares the same ideas will be able to help members tackle these trade and investment obstacles in the future to a certain degree. However, all of this will not happen at once, it will take time and adjustments. The important thing is to quickly adjust ourselves to improve our production methods. Every country, including developing countries, is accelerating this improvement so that it will not be left behind.

There was a lot of discussion about human resources. Worker efficiency and the capability of people in a country are major issues. There was also emphasis on environmental conservation because every country, developed or developing, faces the same problems that arise from industrial development and investment expansion. This problem goes hand in hand with economic, trade, or investment expansion. The meeting participants also discussed this problem. [end recording]

Deputy Prime Minister Quoted

BK2411075093 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 24 Nov 93

[Text] The just-concluded high profile meetings of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, APEC, with its fifth ministerial meeting and the first informal leaders meeting in Seattle, the United States, will definitely strengthen APEC in all aspects. At the press conference given by the Thai delegation, a question was asked if APEC would threaten ASEAN existence in days to come. Khun Amphon Samoson reports:

Deputy Prime Minister Suphachai Phanitchaphak said that ASEAN had been well-structured and united. The grouping had no fear of becoming diluted or overshadowed by APEC. It was ASEAN that proposed new members into APEC, demonstrating their unity and confidence.

[Begin recording] [Supachai] We certainly do not fear dilution of ASEAN in APEC. On the contrary, I think because of our appearing together in a forum which is so important as APEC, it has driven us to have discussions among the ASEAN member countries even more. And, although we may be different in our ideas within the concept of APEC, I think that is all the better because we begin to give our attention to some of the problems that we have not done in the context of ASEAN. So we have widened our perspective and I think that this is very healthy for ASEAN.

[Unidentified correspondent] Deputy prime minister, in the light of what you said earlier about not wanting APEC to be a negotiating body, President Clinton has repeatedly stated that one of his objectives is to lower trade barriers in the region. How do you interpret that statement?

[Suphachai] I think he made that statement in accordance with the forthcoming completion of the Uruguay Round. I think the qualifying statement that should come after that statement would be in accordance with the GATT rules and regulations. I think that is the line of thinking. [end recording]

It was a common and strong stand taken by APEC economists that the conclusion of the Uruguay Round by 15 December 1993 would mean global trade liberalization that is healthy for all groupings and forums—AFTA, NAFTA, and APEC—encompassing both of the proposed free trade areas.

Dailies Comment on Chuan-Clinton Meeting

BK2311130993

[Editorial Report] Three Bangkok vernacular dailies—THAI RAT, SIAM POST, and MATICHON—on 23 November carry editorials commenting on the 40-meeting between between Thai Prime Minister Chuan Likphai and U.S. President Bill Clinton during the

APEC meeting in Seattle on 18 November and its possible repercussions on the Thai-U.S. relations.

THAI RAT's 450-word editorial, on page 3, entitled: "The Valuable Success," says in its first paragraph: "Prime Minister Chuan has won a remarkable and honorable success from his participation in the meeting of APEC leaders in the United States, and was complimented by U.S. President Clinton, who described him as a leader and a fighter for democracy and human rights.

"Earlier, the Thai Government allowed the Nobel laureates to come to Thailand to campaign for the release of Aung San Suu Kyi. In this connection, President Clinton praised the Thai leader for his courage.

"The laudation from the U.S. leader is a guarantee to the world people that there is no violation of human rights in Thailand. Generally speaking, such a commendation is beneficial for this country.

"Moreover, this will help Thailand in its trade negotiations with other countries, in particular the United States. We believe that the U.S. President's recognition of Thailand's efforts in the aforementioned areas will help the two countries settle their existing unsolved trade problems.

"However, we must admit that although the government has adopted a clear-cut policy in preventing human rights violations, be it child labor abuse or child prostitution, the problem is still rampant. Employers or capitalists are still hiring children to work like slaves while girls from the north are being herded into brothels.

"We hope that, upon his return, Prime Minister Chuan, encouraged by his success, will take action to completely wipe out these vices from Thai society. By so doing, the compliment from the U.S. leader will prove truly valuable."

SIAM POST's 400-word editorial, on page 4, entitled: "The Thai Leader's Role," recalls the meetings between Thai Prime Minister Chuan Likphai and Indonesian President Suharto and leaders of other countries during the APEC meeting in Seattle.

Touching on the meeting with U.S. President Clinton, the editorial says: "The Thai prime minister surprisingly made full use of the meeting, which lasted only 40 minutes, with the U.S. President. The two discussed the problem of narcotics suppression, national reconstruction assistance for Cambodia, and other problems in the community."

The editorial cites President Clinton's commendations for the Thai prime minister's efforts to strengthen the democratic system in Thailand and his courage in allowing the Nobel laureates to campaign on Thai soil for the release of Aung San Suu Kyi.

The editorial concludes by saying "it is highly anticipated that the prime minister's participation in the APEC meeting as the Thai chief delegate will entice the

United States to review the special trade privileges (GSP) for Thailand and help paint a good picture of Thailand in the eyes of the world."

MATICHON's 600-word editorial, on page 8, entitled: "Do Not Be Carried Away by the Praise," says: "Hopefully, the prime minister will not allow himself to be carried away by the praise he received from the U.S. President, who looks at him as the leader of democracy and human rights. On the contrary, he must take this praise as a double-edged sword with caution so he will not be cut by either edge."

Reviewing the pros and cons of the government's decision to allow the Nobel laureates to launch a campaign on Thai soil to call for the release of Aung Sann Suu Kyi, the editorial notes: "Thai-Burmese relations are a fragile matter that must be handled with care. At least two border skirmishes, at Hill 491 and Lam Island, took place during the tenure of this government. The government should expedite the border talks with Burma so as to prevent future border conflicts. So far, this government has preferred negotiations to nationalist-oriented confrontation. But the fact that the U.S. leader picked up this issue to praise the prime minister can become a double-edged sword, because it might trigger unfavorable reactions from the Burmese military leaders. Thailand must take the middle road and be cautious."

Touching on the U.S. President's acclaim for the Thai prime minister's efforts to strengthen the democratic system in Thailand, the editorial notes: "Less than two days after the prime minister's departure to Seattle, bombs were thrown at the house of Newin Chitchop, an opposition MP who played a leading role in the recent censure debate against ministers of Prime Minister Chuan Likphai's cabinet. The incident indicates the weak foundation of Thailand's democracy.

"Therefore, it is the duty of Chuan Likphai to strengthen the country's democratic system. Since the government of Prime Minister Chuan Likphai is an elected one, its achievement or failure will be regarded as the achievement or failure of the democratic system. Prime Minister Chuan Likphai must direct the performance of his government to the right path for the benefit of the democratic system, thus creating a good faith toward democracy among the people. If the people are hopeless and tired of the government, that will spell the doom of democracy."

Editorial Notes U.S. Benefits From APEC Meeting

BK2411155593 Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 24 Nov 93 p 3

[Editorial: "The World after APEC Meeting"]

[Text] The recently ended meeting of 15 APEC [Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation] countries, held in a log cabin on Blake Island, Seattle, is worth our thought.

What will the world get from the meeting? What will be the consequences of the meeting?

It was a historic meeting of 15 countries from Asia and the Pacific, which recorded a trade volume amounting to 65 percent of the overall APEC trade volume worldwide despite the great distances apart. It was anticipated from the beginning that there would be no attempt to turn APEC into another economic community, under U.S. pressure. There were several reasons for this, particularly the fear of U.S. domination.

From the opening of the meeting to the end, it became clear that those who thought the United States would be disappointed made a mistake. The United States gained from the meeting. President Bill Clinton especially. He gained at least three kinds of benefit from the meeting. To begin with, the atmosphere at the meeting was that of a casual one. In the meeting room of the cottage where the meeting took place, there were only comfortable chairs, but no table. This indicated that President Clinton wanted the meeting to be a casual one, which served as an occasion to get them together. It was not intended to be a forum to immediately transform the group into a common market community.

Second, this is a bluff against Europe, especially the 12-nation Common Market. The APEC made known its desire to see the conclusion of the Uruguay Round of GATT trade talks on 15 December no matter how hard Europe might try to drag on with the Blair House issue. It served as a hint to Europe that America has no fear since its trade with the APEC group is much higher than its overall trade with Europe.

Third, the United States will more or less be able to expand its markets in Asia and the Pacific. This is what the Asian leaders directly told America. There is no need for America to apply Section 301 of its trade law in order to reduce the huge trade deficits it has with Asian countries. Both America and the Asian countries must cooperate with each other in order to solve the problem. Thailand will also have its part to play in America's effort to cut down its trade deficits with the ASEAN group, which amounted to 12,000 U.S. dollars annually.

In conclusion, the just-ended APEC meeting has brought the group closer. The problem of Asian countries closing their markets to U.S. products will be alleviated. It is hoped that President Clinton's praise for Chuan will encourage Americans to invest in Thailand.

U.S. Textile, Garment Deal Based on GATT

*BK2411021593 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
24 Nov 93 p 30*

[Text] Thailand's position on extending the Thai-US agreement on exports of textiles and garments will continue to be based on the Draft Final Act of the GATT talks, according to Foreign Trade- Department director-general Oranut Osatananda.

Ms Oranut, who led a Thai delegation to Washington last week for negotiations on extending the bilateral deal said US demands concerning the tracking of "circumvention" exceed the agreed framework for the international textile and garment trade.

"Circumvention" refers to the method of illegal transshipment, rerouting or false declaration of the origin of products.

World trade in textiles and garments is regulated by the Multi-Fibre Arrangement (MFA) signed by importing and exporting countries. It is also regulated by the multilateral negotiations of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade on textile issues shown in the Draft Final Act, which is associated with former GATT secretary-general Arthur Dunkel.

The Thai-US bilateral agreement limiting the country's textile and garment exports expires at the end of this year. The agreement limits Thai exports of textiles in specific categories at 256 million square metres and total garment exports at 202 million square metres.

Ms Oranut said though the "circumvention" clause appears in the existing bilateral agreement, the US is seeking to apply more stringent conditions.

She said this appears to be a unilateral action: the US could cut Thai quotas if the "circumvention" were traced in either Thai exporters shipping other countries' products as Thai products or in other countries' exporters sending products to the US claiming they are from Thailand.

She said a further US demand is for the right to visit Thai factories without advance notice. The Thai side, however feels that in this, the US is excessively preoccupied with Thai internal management.

It is not in Thailand's interest for other countries to conduct transshipment here because Thai exporters usually almost fill the quotas, she said. It is unnecessary to bring in other countries' products to fill the quotas.

The Foreign Trade Department has announced penalties in the form of withdrawal of export licences from companies to which "circumvention" is traced, she said. This shows that Thailand has demonstrated a cooperative approach to prevent such abuses.

Ms Oranut said the US proposal is not acceptable. Such measures will not be effective in helping to reduce "circumvention" because it is also necessary for the US to punish its own importers if they acquire products by illegal means.

"Thailand will accept as much as is agreed in the Draft Final Act of the GATT talks," she said.

The Draft Final Act stipulates that the two countries should cooperate fully in dealing with the "circumvention" problem by exchanging information for investigation and making it convenient to investigate factories when the request is proposed case by case.

The Act lays down that both sides should enter into consultations within 30 days, and if the consultations are without result, should ask the Textiles Monitoring Body, which settles trade disputes under the GATT rules, for recommendations.

Ms Oranut said other ASEAN countries also reject the US demands; they hold to the view that the GATT negotiations are the only acceptable criteria.

She said Thailand must weigh whether it is necessary to extend the agreement with the US. If the agreement expires and is not extended, Thailand will still be allowed to export to the US at the amount equal to the last 12 months (the latest two months will not be counted).

If Thailand exports above that amount, the US will call for negotiations to control Thai exports, she said. Therefore if the country can extend the agreement, a more stable Thai textile and garment trade with the US will be created.

Meanwhile, Ms Oranut said the department has sought Commerce Minister Uthai Phimchaichon's approval to relax the regulation on temporary quota transfer on exports of sets of clothes that must be sold together, such as jackets and trousers.

Libyan Envoy Meets Foreign Ministry Official

BK2311140593 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1200 GMT 23 Nov 93

[Text] The unclear situation regarding Thai-Libyan relations is attributed to the fact that the two countries have no embassies in each other's territory. This was agreed upon during the consultative meeting between Phirat Itsarasena na Ayutthaya and (Ahmad 'Ali Mohammad Hanes), Libyan ambassador to Malaysia and Thailand. During the meeting, the two exchanged information and news on the labor situation and the UN sanctions against Libya.

Briefing reporters on the meeting, Lieutenant Rawi Hongpraphat, deputy spokesman for the Foreign Ministry, said that previous coordination between the two countries was hindered by misunderstanding because the two countries have no offices of their ambassadors in each other's territory. In fact, the Libyan Government has not ordered the suspension of the issuance of entry visas to Thai workers or the repatriation of any Thai workers.

Says No Visa Suspension for Thais

BK2311133593 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1200 GMT 23 Nov 93

[Text] The Libyan ambassador reaffirmed that his country's stand on Thai labor remains normal and there is no problem of visa suspension for Thai workers.

(Ahmad 'Ali Mohammad Hanes), Libyan ambassador to Malaysia, called on Deputy Prime Minister Bunchu Rotchanasathian, in charge of overseeing the Foreign Ministry, at Government House this evening.

Speaking to reporters after the meeting with the Libyan envoy, the deputy prime minister said that the meeting was made to reaffirm Libya's stand on Thai labor, adding that there is no serious problem as reported. However, Bunchu said that the date of the negotiations between the high-level officials of the two countries has not yet been fixed. The Thai Government has reaffirmed its determination to maintain bilateral relations between the two countries.

Saudi Envoy on Unresolved Cases, Relations

BK2411153993 Bangkok NAEON in Thai 24 Nov 93 p 9

[Text] Saudi Charge d'Affaires Muhammad Sa'id Khujah told reporters yesterday that relations between Saudi Arabia and Thailand will not be normalized unless substantial progress is shown in the cases of the four murdered Saudi diplomats, a missing Saudi businessman, and the jewelry scandal.

"I know that Thai authorities have sufficient evidence. However, there is still no progress in these cases. Relations between Thailand and Saudi Arabia have been sour for almost four years. It depends on how the Thai Government will handle this issue," he said.

The Saudi charge d'affaires said that the Thai Government and its people have lost a great amount of income during the past four years. This amount did not include the income from Saudi tourists visiting the country.

During the news conference, the Saudi charge d'affaires showed reporters some evidence such as photographs of jewelry he said were taken from videotape by the Police Department. He also showed his wife's pearl necklace. He said that "my wife's necklace is invaluable in Thailand. So, what will be the value of the jewelry belonging to my king? I do not want to interfere in the authorities' handling of these cases. Otherwise, it can create conflict between our two countries."

He said that Saudi Arabia's suspension of visa issuances for Thai workers is not a retaliation. It just wants to avoid any possible conflict.

Regarding reports that Saudi Prince Turki Bin-Faysal and Saudi businessmen will visit and invest in Thailand in the near future and that some Thai laborers have returned to work in Saudi Arabia, Khujah said that it is

normal to exchange visits by leaders. He said that it is possible that Saudi businessmen will come to invest in Thailand because he has never branded Thailand unsuitable for investment. He also said that his country issues entry visas only for Thai workers who want to work as maids.

Asked whether or not the sacking of Police General Sawat Amonwiwat as police director will help solve the cases, Khujah said that Police General Sawat and several other police generals are his good friends. Khujah, however, expressed his belief that Acting Police Chief Police General Prathin Santipraphop will be able to settle the cases because he is honest.

Scheme To Kill Burma SLORC Leaders Outlined

BK2411020993 Bangkok THE NATION in English 24 Nov 93 p 1

[Text] Police yesterday arrested four Burmese students two of whom admitted at a news conference that they planned to use suicide bombs to kill Burma's military rulers during independence day celebrations on Jan 4.

One of the self-proclaimed "suicide bombers" said he was one of the two Burmese students who hijacked a Thai Airways International flight four years ago. Police could not immediately confirm this. But the man insisted he was Ye Thi Ha, one of the hijackers who were both released in August last year under a Royal pardon.

File photos of Ye Thi Ha confirmed the man's account. He was identified by police after his arrest yesterday as Sun Naign, leader of the three other suspects.

Sun Naign told the police-organised conference their main target was General Khin Nyunt, Burma's chief of intelligence and one of the most powerful men in the ruling military junta, the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC).

"We are freedom fighters and we planned to assassinate General Khin Nyunt and other generals by suicide bombs," Sun Naign, 28, said.

Sun Naign said he and his friends planned to find their way back into Rangoon and assassinate the generals on January 4, the anniversary of Burma's independence from British colonial rule.

Another of the detained men, Said Nya Zoe, 30, said: "On January 4 the generals will participate in the Independence Day ceremony and we planned to detonate suicide bombs to kill them."

The two other accused—Ne Tan, 37, and Mao Mao Ray, 30—stood mute at the news conference.

The four were arrested at a house in Makkasan area, Rajthevi district, with two sticks of TNT, two M26 hand grenades, a detonator, electrical wire, handgun bullets and four woven hoods, police said. The alleged evidence

was shown at the news conference at the Metropolitan Police Commission headquarters.

Metropolitan Police Commissioner Pol Lt Gen Cham-long Iemchaengphan said the four Burmese were initially charged with possession of war weapons and illegal entry into Thailand.

The four allegedly entered Thailand by Kanchanaburi province.

The arrest is likely to prompt the Thai authorities to become tougher with Burmese exiles roaming in Thailand. The government last year opened a holding centre in Ratchaburi province for Burmese students who had fled from political persecution in their homeland, but the project has been spurned by many dissidents.

Ye Thi Ha, and another Burmese student, Ye Yint, hijacked a Thai Airways International flight in October, 1989, from Rangoon to the U-tapao airport to publicise the suppression of the democracy movement in Burma. They were arrested and sentenced to five years in prison but were released last year.

After their release, Ye Thi Ha and Ye Yint told The Nation in an interview that their struggle for democracy was "far from over." They claimed they saw a "light of satisfaction" in the eyes of some passengers when they told them they were Burmese students and were hijacking the plane to draw the world's attention to the political brutality of the SLORC.

Thousands of Burmese students fled from Rangoon and sought refuge in Thailand after the military in Burma violently suppressed a national uprising for democracy in 1988.

The hijacking incident and frequent bomb explosions at the Burmese Embassy last year, for which no suspect has been arrested, prompted a get-tough measure from Thai authorities who started a crackdown on Burmese illegally in hiding in the country. The campaign triggered some international protests.

A Metropolitan Police source said the four Burmese arrested yesterday were members of a "gang of 11" who attracted police attention because of their "suspicious activities."

"They met in the night and were rarely seen in day light," said the source, who asked not to be named.

He said group members switched from one hang-out to another. They rented houses in Suthisarn and Huay Kwang areas.

The house raided yesterday in Soi Taparn, off the Rajprarop Road, was "the biggest meeting place" and very "secluded".

Police were hunting for the other alleged group members.

The source did not rule out the possibility that the suspects were in fact planning to use the weapons to commit crimes here. Claiming that they planned to kill SLORC members could help them to gain sympathy, he noted.

"We have yet to find out whether the motive of these people is really political. It's possible that they intended to get away with it by using the claim about a terrorist campaign in their homeland. Burma and Thailand have no extradition treaty," the source said.

"If they want to sabotage SLORC, they should have stayed at the Thai-Burmese boundary instead of roaming here in Bangkok."

He said investigators would investigate possible links between the suspects and three bomb explosion incidents at the Burmese Embassy over the past few years.

The source said the grenades and explosives seized from the suspects "could easily destroy a big embassy building."

General on Border Discussions With Burma

BK2011111393 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 20 Nov 93

[Text] Lieutenant General Chettha Thanacharo, First Army Region commander and leader of the Thai delegation to the eighth meeting of the Thai-Burmese Regional Border Committee held in Burma last week, has said that during the meeting officials of the two countries discussed the exchange of news and information on the suppression of narcotics, the trade in war weapons, illegal immigration, and other illegal activities along the common border. He noted that both sides are serious and sincere and want to cooperate in solving problems. He went on to say that further consideration will be given to whether a task force should be set up to handle the work. The Thai side is always ready to take action to eliminate bad things.

Touching on the drawing of a demarcation line between Thailand and Burma, the First Army Region commander said this is an issue for the national government, as the Thai-Burmese border is 2,407 kilometers long. A regional meeting can only discuss certain issues or problems. For example, regarding the construction of an embankment along the Moei River to prevent bank erosion on both sides of the border, the two sides agreed to suspend repairs on the embankment as well as construction of a new one. This is because the embankment has changed the water current and obstructed navigation along the river.

Touching on the fighting between Burmese Government troops and ethnic groups living along the Burmese border with Thailand, Lt. Gen. Chettha Thanacharo said that if the incident took place inside of Burma, Thailand will not get involved. He added that the Thai Government wants to see all ethnic groups along the border

living in peace. Besides, Thailand would not gain anything by helping the ethnic groups fight the Burmese troops. If the incident took place inside Thai territory, however, the Thai side will follow international practice in dealing with foreign troops encroaching on its territory to defend the country's independence and the safety of the people.

Aid for Burmese Public Health Development Noted

BK2011080193 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 20 Nov 93

[Text] Thailand provides assistance worth 50 million baht for Myanmar [Burma] on public health, education, and agriculture. Deputy Director General of the Department of Technical and Economic Cooperation Phichet Sunthonphiphit says in the fiscal year 1994, Thailand offers Myanmar 50 million baht aid, or 20 percent of the budget under the project on technical cooperation among developing countries, which has been set at 246 million baht. According to Mr. Phichet, Myanmar receives the largest amount of the assistance budget on public health, at 25 million baht.

A Thai team on public health, education, and agriculture visited Myanmar on 9 and 10 November for a meeting on bilateral cooperation. Public Health Minister's chief medical officer Dr. Somsong Rakphao, who led the Thai team, says the work plan for public health development in Myanmar will take three years, including the development of provincial hospitals and health stations, and health management information system. He says the public health development at the Thai-Myanmar border will start at 1994 to prevent and control malaria, cholera, and AIDS.

UN Official Visits Burma Border Refugee Camps

BK2011052793 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 20 Nov 93 p 2

[Text] Tak—Special Rapporteur of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights Yozo Yokota yesterday led a three-member delegation to Karen refugees camps along the Thai-Burmese border in this northern province for the second day after visiting Burma for one week to study the human rights situation in that country.

Prof Yokota was accompanied by Karen Refugee Committee [KRC] chairman Robert Htwe and KRC officials during his visit to Mae Hla, Huaymanok and Shoklo in Tha Song Yang District yesterday.

He said while in Burma he did not get to see former opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi but he did meet former National League for Democracy members U Tin U and Dr Aung Khin Chit, who are still being detained.

Prof Yokota said he also talked to a number of political leaders in Burma.

The professor declined to comment on the human rights situation in that country. He said only that he received many documents from people he met but had not read them.

The special UN delegation interviewed a number of refugees. Prof Yokota said information obtained during the trip will be presented to the meeting of the Central Committee of the UN Assembly by the end of this month.

The human rights situation in Burma will be specifically raised during another UN meeting in Geneva to be held some time between February and March next year.

Economic Cooperation Agreement With Finland

*BK2411024393 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
24 Nov 93 p 2*

[Text] Thailand and Finland, respectively looking to enhance market opportunities in Europe and Southeast Asia, yesterday signed a bilateral agreement for economic cooperation.

The agreement was signed at the Foreign Ministry, after two days of wide-ranging talks covering trade, investment and technical cooperation, director-general of the ministry's Europe Department Suchitra Hiranphruk told reporters.

Miss Suchitra led the Thai side to what was the third meeting of the Thai-Finnish Joint Commission. Finland's delegation to Bangkok was led by Pekka Lintu, deputy director-general for International Economic Relations. The talks came amid a dramatic increase in bilateral trade from US\$203 million worth through 1992 to the value of US\$223 million for the first half of this year.

Officials noted that the balance for some time has been substantially in Finland's favour but no figures were available. Besides bilateral business, both countries aspire to cooperation for improving chances of trade in neighbouring regions.

Thailand looks to Finland as a gateway to markets in the Commonwealth of Independent States as well as the European Community. To these ends, it is hoping to use the services of Finnish freight carriers, trading houses and retail outlets, officials said.

Finland, for its part, sees Thailand as an opening to further trade with states in Indochina and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). The two sides decided to hold the fourth meeting of the Thai-Finnish Joint Commission in Helsinki.

Taiwan Urged To Reduce Trade Obstacles

BK2311105793 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 23 Nov 93

[Text] Thailand has urged Chinese Taipei to consider reducing obstacles to trade cooperation between the two

countries. The call was made by Commerce Minister Uthai Phimchaichon, who discussed the issue with Chinese Taipei's minister of economic relations when they met at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation ministerial meeting in the United States. Minister Uthai said he had asked Chinese Taipei to reduce import duty on tapioca products, fresh fruits, and canned fruit juice. Chinese Taipei was also asked to import rice, noodle, and fresh fruits from Thailand and increase its quota on coconut import from 221 tons to 5,000 tons.

Mr. Uthai said Thailand had proposed a joint venture with Chinese Taipei in fruit process industry, pork production for exports, and marine transport. Thailand is also ready to cooperate with Chinese Taipei in promoting medium- and small-scale investments.

Government To Abolish Farm Import Surcharges

*BK2411021793 Bangkok THE NATION in English
24 Nov 93 p B1*

[Text] The Thai government yesterday agreed to abolish all surcharges currently imposed on farm product imports in a response to the world trade liberalization negotiated under the Uruguay Round, but insisted on having another 10-year grace period before it is ready to grant any Treaties of Amity to other countries.

Deputy Commerce Minister Jurin Laksanavisit told the reporters that the cabinet agreed to abolish surcharges currently imposed on several farm products in order to be consistent with GATT's framework.

"We are scrapping the surcharge because it is against GATT and we will use the tariff system instead," Jurin said.

The tariff which is turned from a surcharge however, will not exceed the level the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) agreed upon, Jurin affirmed.

At present, Thailand has levied a surcharge on fish meal at Bt2,200 per tonne, soybean meal at Bt925 per tonne, and maize at Bt380 per tonne. They are used mostly in animal feeding. The surcharges are designed to protect local planters of soybean and maize as well as the local fishing industry.

The Cabinet also assigned the director general of Business Economics Department Krirk-Krai Jirapaet to head Thai delegation to Geneva, together with deputy permanent secretary to Commerce Ministry Karun Kittistaporn, to renegotiate with the remaining 115 GATT-member countries in the last attempt to conclude the Uruguay Round of world trade talks by Dec 15.

According to Jurin, Thai delegation will send message to GATT's forum that Bangkok can and will reduce the tariff down by 26 per cent only.

Jurin said Thailand could not manage to reduce it by 33 per cent, the rate proposed by the GATT to its member countries, "still we have plans to do so, but it takes time," Jurin said.

According to Jurin, the Thai government affirmed that Bangkok still respects the GATT agreement that the customs tariffs should be down by 33 per cent. Yet at present, the country has a definite plan to cut the tariff by 26 per cent only.

"In this negotiation, we will make sure our delegation tells the meeting that we are cutting our tariffs by 26 per cent, the rate which is considered to far exceed the rates proposed by other countries within this region," Jurin reiterated.

Deputy Commerce Minister Jurin Laksanavisit also said the cabinet agreed to ask GATT for a 10-year grace period for the Treaty of Amity between Thailand and the U.S. which was signed in 1966. The Treaty gives the U.S. citizens a national treatment while doing business in Thailand.

Under the GATT agreement, once the Round ends, any agreements Thailand has earlier signed and benefitted the U.S. must be granted to all other GATT members the same way as the U.S.

According to Jurin, if Thailand is to give national treatment to all 116 GATT members it will badly affect Thailand. But if Bangkok is to give the treatment to others, it should make sure it gets something else in return.

"Therefore, we prefer to have a 10-year grace period for the Treaty until it phases out," Jurin said.

Thailand however will give to GATT the lists of 95 professions that foreigners are allowed to do in Thailand, a significant sign which shows Thailand is open to granting wider access for foreigners, Jurin said.

Deputy Commerce Minister Jurin also said the conclusion of the Round will benefit Thailand in two ways: that a small country like Thailand can negotiate with large countries on a level playing field showing that countries can force Thailand again, and Thailand can gain new access for farm products in Japan and the European Union markets. [sentence as published]

Vietnam

Vietnamese, Lao, U.S. MIA Experts Meet 22 Nov
BK2311143193 Hanoi VNA in English 1426 GMT 23 Nov 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 23—Vietnamese, Lao and US specialists on the issue of American servicemen missing in action (MIA) met here yesterday [22 November] to prepare for the search in December which aims to solve a number of cases of Americans reported missing along the Vietnam-Laos border.

The meeting took place in a cooperative atmosphere. Basing themselves on the principles agreed upon at the meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii, in August, 1993, the specialists of the three countries agreed on concrete organizational and technical measures to ensure the effectiveness of the coming search.

The Lao and US specialists left here today.

Commentary Affirms Support for MIA Search

BK2411105293 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 24 Nov 93

[Station commentary]

[Text] The 26th joint Vietnamese-American search for American servicemen missing in action during the Vietnam war was carried out from 21 October to 15 November. Here is our summary:

The search was carried out in 19 provinces throughout Vietnam. It was the biggest ever undertaken. It is reported around 100 cases were investigated and many sets of remains which were believed to be American GI's were found.

Members of the joint team even went to Minh Hai, the southern cape of Vietnam, to investigate so-called live sightings of Americans. During that 26th joint search, the team interviewed many witnesses, 25 soldiers of the Vietnamese People's Army, and visited many local museums.

The spokesman for the team said they received great support from the Vietnamese Government. The 26th joint search yet again proves Vietnam's positive response to the MIA issue. Vietnam does not hide any information relating to the MIA issue. This reality as well as results obtained in the last joint search once again conforms to the affirmation made by the U.S. Senate that there was no evidence of the Americans missing but remaining alive in Vietnam.

Early next month, Vietnamese, Lao, and U.S. specialists will conduct search to solve a number of cases of Americans reportedly seen along the Vietnam-Laos border. The search will receive active support from the Vietnamese Government, more evidence showing Vietnam's goodwill in solving the MIA issue.

Singapore's Lee Kwan Yew Views Economic Reform

BK2411122793 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 23 Nov 93

[QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 23 November article by Van Yen and Le Duc Sao]

[Text] Dear friends, Singaporean Senior Minister Lee Kwan Yew recently met with the press in Hanoi before concluding his visit to Vietnam. The following are the main points of his talk to the press:

Regarding Vietnam's economic renovation, His Excellency Lee Kwan Yew held that financial policy plays a very important role, especially the effort to contain the national budget deficit to less than five percent of the GNP while striving to effectively curb inflation. It is necessary to encourage the people to increase their savings by offering higher deposit interest rates in order to fulfill this task. Efforts must be made to optimally use credits and foreign capital to build infrastructure projects, improve airport facilities, and set up a reliable taxi service system. Special attention should be made to ensure that loans and credits are effectively used in conformity with the unique conditions in each country. His Excellency Lee Kwan Yew contended that Vietnam should not use Taiwan, Thailand, or Singapore as economic models. As a country that underwent 30 years of wars, Vietnam must accept the conditions of poor infrastructure and manual workers earning higher incomes than wage earners such as teachers and so forth. Countries in other regions that underwent similar wars have also experienced the same conditions. He stressed that we will be able to improve our conditions only by working very hard. He said that in a transition period, workers in economic and service establishments will earn more than those working for the government. These unjust conditions have not arisen from social characteristics, but rather from consequences of the past.

He pointed out that Vietnam should strive to expand foreign economic and trade relations as part of its economic development program. For instance, efforts must be made to promote relations with Japan and the IMF if Vietnam seeks more foreign capital. The ASEAN countries can help Vietnam develop trade and business while China is a great market for merchandise. It is necessary to expand trade relations with China's southern region. Vietnam should continue to suppress smuggling at the China-Vietnam border, especially border passes in Lang Song and Lau Cai Provinces.

Touching on Vietnam's role in the regional economy as well as its competitive power in the world market, His Excellency Lee Kwan Yew stressed that not only Vietnam, but also other countries in the region, are striving to accelerate their economic development programs. As a result, Vietnam cannot expect radical changes unless it tries to reform its economy and catch up with developments in the region. While Vietnam can offer cheap labor and lower the price of land, other countries in the region, especially China, can do the same plus improve their facilities and infrastructure.

Answering a question on the effect of the political system on economic development, His Excellency Lee Kwan Yew contended that the matter does not rest with a single or multiparty system, rather it depends on the ability to train the work force and having correct leadership. This will help create positive conditions for economic development. According to His Excellency Lee Kwan Yew, the Vietnamese Government has led the Vietnamese people to various victories in national defense and reconstruction over a long period. Vietnam

has carefully studied economic renovation in other countries and has chosen the most suitable development form to advance further with minor adverse consequences to its society.

Lao Finance Delegation Pays Official Visit

*BK2411061593 Hanoi VNA in English 0547 GMT
24 Nov 93*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 24—A delegation of the Lao Ministry of Finance led by Khamsai Souphanouvong, member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and minister of finance, arrived here yesterday for an official visit to Vietnam.

This morning, the delegation paid tribute to President Ho Chi Minh at his mausoleum.

During the visit made in the framework of the agreement on economic, cultural, scientific and technological cooperation for 1993 between the Lao and Vietnamese Governments, the two finance ministers will exchange experience on economic and financial activities and organizing financial system, export-import taxes and activities of treasure system of their respective countries.

The Lao delegation will work with concerned officials of Hanoi, Hoa Binh and Thanh Hoa Provinces.

Khmer Rouge's Allegation of Control Denounced

*BK2411134193 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English
1000 GMT 24 Nov 93*

[Station commentary]

[Text] Cambodian King Sihanouk has rejected the Khmer Rouge's allegation that the Cambodian Government and army are still controlled by Vietnam. Following is our radio comment:

In a story written in the newspaper CAMBODIAN LIFE, King Sihanouk said the allegation was totally groundless and unacceptable. That conforms the reality. Not a single Vietnamese soldier was left in Cambodia after the troops withdraw [as heard]. And Vietnam has reserved total respect for Cambodian internal affairs. Many times, Vietnam has affirmed that it would not interfere in the internal affairs of Cambodia. This has been affirmed and acknowledged by King Sihanouk and the two co-premiers of Cambodia.

That groundless allegation by the Khmer Rouge convinced nobody. And they should hope for senior positions in the Cambodian Government if they deliberately run counter to the interest of the Cambodian nation and people. King Sihanouk pointed out that a number of Khmer Rouge leaders could be nominated ministerial posts in the government as deputy ministers, state secretaries, and the government advising role if they accept a total ceasefire and give up unconditionally their control areas to the Cambodian Government. However, some Khmer Rouge leaders such as Pol Pot, Ieng Sary,

Nuon Chea, and Ta Mok would not only be excluded from the government but have to be brought to court for their heinous crime against the Cambodian people.

Meanwhile, according to foreign reports, the Khmer Rouge have launched many attacks in northern Cambodia. Foreign observers said these attacks show that the Khmer Rouge, though isolated and defeated inside the large party of Cambodia, would still oppose to the process of national reconciliation and concord in Cambodia. They keep voicing shopworn allegations against Vietnam and the new Cambodian Government.

The Khmer Rouge cannot swim against the common tide. Cambodian people are surely embarking on the road of national reconciliation and concord and will build Cambodia a prosperous country.

Do Muoi Receives Cuban Women's Delegation

BK2311145393 Hanoi VNA in English 1439 GMT 23 Nov 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 23—Party General Secretary Do Muoi receives here this afternoon a delegation of the Federation of Cuban Women (FCW) led by Mrs. Vilma Espin de Castro, member of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee and president of the FCW, on a current visit to Vietnam.

The Cuban head delegate expressed her pleasure to see the great socio-economic achievements of the Vietnamese people in implementing their renovation policy.

She also expressed the sincere thanks of the Cuban people in general, and the Cuban women in particular, to the party, the state, the Women's Union, and the entire fraternal people of Vietnam for their solidarity and whole-hearted assistance to Cuba.

Speaking to his guests, General Secretary Do Muoi said that the party, the government and the people of Vietnam persistently united with the supported the fraternal people of Cuba, and believed that with their firm revolutionary tradition and their undaunted struggle, the Cuban people, under the leadership of the Cuban Communist Party, would soon overcome difficulties, hardship and challenges and push up the advance of the Cuban revolution.

On this occasion, the party leader asked the women delegation to convey his best regards and wishes to President Castro and other Cuban party and state leaders.

Also on hand at the reception were Truong My Hoa, secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee [CPV CC] and president of Vietnam Women's Union; Do Van Tai, deputy head of CPV CC External Relations Commission; and Cuban Ambassador to Vietnam Tania Maccira Delgado.

Ties With Brazil, Argentina, Chile Reviewed

BK2411120593 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 23 Nov 93

[Station commentary]

[Text] A Vietnamese Foreign Ministry delegation led by Deputy Minister Le Mai has just concluded a visit to the three Latin American countries of Brazil, Argentina, and Chile. It was assessed as a promising, opening event for cooperative relations between Vietnam and those countries. Here is our radio editor's opinion:

During the 1970s and in the early 80s, Brazil, Argentina, and Chile were bogged down in their economic crisis. But since the middle of the 80s, all of them have achieved progress in economic development. Meanwhile, relations between Vietnam and Latin American countries did not develop. Now, in implementing the policy of befriending all countries in the world, Vietnam wants to change the situation and positively develop relations with all countries in Latin America, first of all, Brazil, Argentina, and Chile.

The mission was entrusted by the Vietnamese Government to a delegation led by Deputy Foreign Minister Le Mai. Results show that Vietnam has initially approached its goal. In coming months, Brazil will send a joint delegation comprising state and private experts to Vietnam on a fact-finding mission. Then it will send a government delegation to consider cooperation possibility. The two countries, that is Brazil and Vietnam, will sign a frame work agreement as a basis for trade, economic, scientific, and technical cooperation.

Meanwhile, Argentina is sending draft agreements to Vietnam for consideration and signing. Chile, for its part, has handed over to Vietnam draft of economic, trade, investment encouragement agreements which will be signed soon. Chile has further said that it would prepare to let Vietnamese goods transit to its free ports to Latin American countries. And these will bridge Vietnam with countries in the region.

Vietnam has had no representative offices over the past 20 years in these three countries. The situation will change after this visit. The result obtained during the recent visit by Deputy Foreign Minister Le Mai to Brazil, Argentina, and Chile constitutes a promising start in relations between Vietnam and South America.

Party Leaders Attend Publishing House Meeting

BK2411125993 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1215 GMT 22 Nov 93

[Text] The National Politics Publishing House held a meeting on 22 November with its 1993 collaborators to discuss working directions for 1994-95. Attending the meeting were Comrade Dao Duy Tung, member of the party Political Bureau and standing member of the party Secretariat; Nguyen Duc Binh, member of the party

Political Bureau; and many leading comrades of national institutions, training schools, and related departments and sectors.

The collaborators' contributions are a decisive factor in the quality and quantity of publishing work. In the past years, the National Politics Publishing House has exerted many efforts to improve its activities. Publishing

party documents and other printing products are considered a daily duty of the house because these publications will bring the party's guidelines and policies to life and help accelerate national renovation.

After listening to a report reviewing last year's activities of the house, many delegates contributed practical and useful opinions to improve work for a better service to the public.

Australia

Opposition Criticizes Landmark APEC Report

*BK1911093093 Melbourne Radio Australia in English
0500 GMT 19 Nov 93*

[Text] The Australian parliamentary opposition has criticized the landmark report presented to the APEC [Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation] meeting in Seattle. Trade, economic, and foreign ministers from Asia-Pacific economy have been presented with the findings of the so-called eminent persons group. The report written by 11 prominent representatives from APEC economy was given the task of identifying the challenges facing Asia-Pacific trade up to the year 2000. [sentence as heard] But the Australian opposition foreign affairs spokesman, Andrew Peacock, says the report fudged its recommendation that APEC member should agree on an ultimate goal of free-trade within the region.

Mr. Peacock said the Eminent Persons Group had failed to categorically rule out the possibility that APEC might evolve in the direction of a closed discriminatory trading bloc. This could lead countries outside the 17-member group to speculate about the sincerity of APEC's attachment to the multinational trading system. Australia's support for discriminatory APEC trading arrangements. [sentence as heard]

New Zealand

Disclosure of Intelligence Sent To U.S. Urged

*BK2311042493 Hong Kong AFP in English 0318 GMT
23 Nov 93*

[Text] WELLINGTON, Nov 23 (AFP)—Revelations that the United States controlled access to intelligence data collected by two spy bases in New Zealand meant the government here should release all details on such links, Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND) spokeswoman Maire Leadbeater said Tuesday.

Auckland University researcher Peter Wills said Tuesday he had obtained a U.S. naval intelligence document under the U.S. Freedom of Information Act which showed the U.S. National Security Agency (NSA) controlled access to the information collected at the Waihopai and Tangimoana bases here. His claim came a day after U.S. President Bill Clinton said he would review the relationship with New Zealand, frozen since Wellington refused to accept nuclear warships in 1985. Politicians have repeatedly said since that one of the costs of the break with the United States is that Wellington no longer receives security intelligence from Washington.

Leadbeater said Wills' information came at an opportune moment.

"If there is a political thaw in the relationship between New Zealand and the United States, there should also be a thaw and openness with the New Zealand public about the full extent of New Zealand's contribution to the United States' intelligence network." She said New Zealand also housed U.S. military facilities such as the Military Airlift Command base at Christchurch International Airport and the Black Birch Naval Observatory near Blenheim. Black Birch, as well as its civilian role, provided accurate star maps needed to help guide nuclear missiles, Leadbeater said. People had a right to know if New Zealand's nuclear-free policy was being upheld, she said.

The document produced by Wills showed the information collected from the spy bases went to the NSA which then "controls" the dissemination of information from such "second party producers." Other second party producers listed are Britain, Canada and Australia. Tangimoana, which opened in 1982, used a 73-pole direction-finding aerial to listen to and record shipping communications and to track ships. Waihopai, which has been operating since 1989, has a satellite receiving dish to monitor communications in the Pacific and Indonesia. The facilities are run by the government Communications Security Bureau. The official line from the bureau has been that the interceptions are controlled by New Zealand for domestic benefits such as trade security.

Vanuatu

Talks With New Zealand on Defense Cooperation

*BK2411095693 Hong Kong AFP in English 0755 GMT
24 Nov 93*

[Text] PORT VILA, Nov 24 (AFP)—Vanuatu and New Zealand confirmed their cooperation on defence programs at bilateral talks here Wednesday, officials said. The main emphasis of the annual talks on mutual assistance program (MAP) was on human resources development, Vanuatu's prime ministerial first secretary Gerard Leymang said. No significant change was decided in the current level of defence cooperation between New Zealand and the island state, New Zealand High Commissioner Bryan Smythe said here.

"There was no real change, but the project is now more mature," Smythe said.

New Zealand currently cooperates in training in various fields including infantry, medical aid, construction, seamanship and firefighting, a High Commission official said. Smythe told AFP the program cost New Zealand approximately 50 million vatu (400,000 U.S.) a year.

